

NRP to join Likud in planning government's new structure

TEL AVIV. — National Religious Party representatives will join Likud teams in drafting proposals for the government's new structure, the two parties agreed at the first round of coalition talks yesterday. The agreement capped a friendly meeting between the two parties.

A Likud participant, Dr. Eliahu Ben-Elissar, said that the parties expected a new coalition to be formed by mid-June.

But an NRP participant was cautious and said, "It's only natural that the atmosphere would be pleasant. They cannot form a coalition without us. So why shouldn't they

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Post Political Reporter

receive us nicely and talk to us nicely?"

"We didn't get to major issues," the source added. Discussions of these are expected to begin on Sunday evening at NRP headquarters here.

The Likud readily agreed to include NRP representatives in its team proposing changes in the government structure after the NRP's leader, Dr. Yosef Burg, complained that his party had been discriminated against in previous

coalitions with the Alignment. Burg, as well as other NRP leaders, said that since they are to share responsibility, they want to take part in the planning stage.

(Dr. Burg said on the radio news-reel yesterday afternoon that the country's situation being what it is, there is no point in delaying the formation of a coalition. Every effort should be made to form a government as soon as possible, he said.)

(This note of urgency was in contrast to Likud leader Simcha Ehrlich's estimate that the Likud would form a coalition "within a month.")

(There have been reports that the Democratic Movement for Change, another prospective member of the coalition, would prefer to wait until after the Knesset elections (on June 21), on the assumption that it would elect more delegates if it were not labelled as a rightist party.)

(Burg's comment may well have been a signal to the Likud that it should resist such tactics and press the DMC for a quicker answer.)

At the coalition talks, the NRP members stressed that they wanted to preserve the status quo on religious affairs. This was not expected to arouse any opposition in the Likud; but it may cause difficulties with the DMC.

The DMC had pledged to give its Knesset representatives freedom to vote on religious issues. But NRP's MK Aharon Abu-Hatira stressed yesterday that the coalition agreement would have to bind all partners.

Likud's Arye Dulitz served notice, however, that some sections in his Liberal faction would probably demand freedom to vote as they wish if

'Aspirin would have cured Begin's illness'

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Likud leader Menachem Begin's ailment could have been treated with aspirin, his doctor said yesterday. However, it took several days and intensive tests to arrive at the conclusion that Begin was only suffering from an inflammation of the heart lining, rather than something more serious, said Dr. Shlomo Laniado, head of the coronary intensive care unit at Ichilov Hospital.

Begin's present state of health should offer no impediment to assuming the role of prime minister — provided he does not work himself into a state of exhaustion, said Dr. Laniado. Begin was hospitalized on Monday morning.

Yesterday afternoon Begin was disconnected from the constant monitoring equipment and moved from the intensive care unit to a nearby "intermediate care" unit. He is still under the direct supervision of Laniado. From this unit he may be shifted to a private room in a regular ward, or discharged. However, although Begin spends his time reading and even walking around, he is not allowed visitors.

Prof. Moshe Solovitchik, director of Ichilov, said Begin's doctors were "very pleased with his progress."

Laniado yesterday morning said that what evidently had brought Begin to the hospital a few days ago (after he suffered a heart attack more than a month ago) was an irritation of the pericardium, the heart's outer lining. This irritation, in this case, could have been treated with aspirin.

It took some time to arrive at this diagnosis, said Laniado, and it was made after a series of tests ruled out most other possibilities. Pericarditis, he said, often appears shortly after a patient recovers from a heart attack. He denied a story appearing in the "Ha'aretz" that Begin was suffering from angina pectoris, a constriction of the blood vessels in and around the heart, which can be very painful.

Dayan to be FM

TEL AVIV. — Former Defence Minister Moshe Dayan last night agreed, in principle, to serve as foreign minister in a Likud-led government.

Dayan, who was elected in seventh place on the Alignment list, will thus break party ranks.

The Labour Alignment had re-

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Post Political Reporter

jected the Likud's call to join a national unity government.

A terse Likud statement issued shortly before midnight said that the Likud's candidate for prime minister, Menachem Begin, had

"offered Mr. Moshe Dayan the post of foreign minister in the new government."

"Mr. Dayan responded affirmatively, in principle, to Begin's proposal."

The Likud's director of information, Dr. Eliahu Ben-Elissar, (Continued on page 2, col. 5)



Fahd assures Carter: No oil embargo

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — Winding up two days of intensive talks with Saudi Prince Fahd, President Jimmy Carter yesterday said that the recent Likud election victory in Israel has resulted in "a lot of the uncertainty" that now exists with respect to hopes for an Arab-Israeli settlement.

After escorting the crown prince to his waiting limousine, the president made the point that there are "no disturbing differences at all" between the U.S. and Saudi Arabia.

Carter also dismissed reports that the Saudis might reimpose another oil embargo against the U.S. if Israel refuses to withdraw to the pre-1967 borders. "No, there's no threatened embargo at all," the president said. "He (Fahd) said that was a completely false report."

Carter said that Saudi Arabia understands the need for a secure Israel in the Middle East. "He (Fahd) also expressed his strong hope that Israel would be reassured about the inclinations of his country toward the protection of their (Israel's) security," the president said. "These were the comments he made about Israel," Carter added.

Meanwhile, White House spokesman Jody Powell told reporters that the U.S. interprets UN Security Council Resolution 242, adopted in November 1967, as calling for a "substantial" Israeli withdrawal from the territories captured during the 1967 war.

This raised a stir in the press briefing room because the resolution merely calls for a withdrawal "from territories occupied in the recent conflict," without specifying to which line Israel must withdraw. At first there seemed to be a change in the American position, aligning itself with the Arab and the Soviet interpretation of the resolution.

But State Department officials subsequently said that the U.S. has always believed that Resolution 242, which has been accepted until now by Israel and the Arabs, called for a return to the 1967 borders with only "minor" adjustments — the public position taken by Carter last March during his highly publicized press conference.

American officials, who insist that Resolution 242 calls for withdrawals along all three fronts — Sinai, Golan and the West Bank — have expressed fear that a Likud-led government in Israel might refuse to abide by this resolution. An Israeli refusal to withdraw from at least part of the West Bank would be considered a violation of the resolution, according to U.S. spokesmen.

The Carter-Fahd talks, which have been marked by an unusually friendly atmosphere, seem to have hardened Carter's views on the need for a Palestinian "homeland." He told reporters yesterday that "all of the UN resolutions have contemplated a homeland for the Palestinians, and this is obviously something that will have to be accommodated."

But later, White House spokesman Powell said that the president had erred. What he meant to say was that "most" of the UN resolutions have called for a Palestinian homeland, not "all" the resolutions. Resolution 242, for example, does not call for a homeland.

Carter said, however, that his views on a Palestinian "homeland" have not yet been "firmed on what the composition of a Palestinian homeland might be."

On Tuesday, spokesman Powell said that any Palestinian homeland would have to be "secure" and include "recognized boundaries." He did not elaborate.

Asked what Fahd had asked him to do with respect to Israel, Carter replied: "To continue a search for (Continued on page 2, col. 7)

'WASHINGTON POST' 'Likud won't annex without new mandate'

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — American sources have sensed a slight modification of the Likud's insistence on retaining Judea and Samaria. A press report published here yesterday said the Likud has offered a compromise not to annex or change the status of the West Bank without first seeking a fresh mandate in new elections.

But the U.S. sources were quick to point out that this reported Likud position is by no means satisfactory to the U.S., which believes Israel must eventually agree to withdraw from most of the West Bank.

"The Washington Post" reported yesterday from Jerusalem that Likud Knesset Member Zalman Shoval, a member of the party's executive, had made this offer to the Democratic Movement for Change during negotiations on Tuesday designed to bridge the gap between the two parties in the hope of forming a broad coalition.

Shoval reportedly told DMC leader Yigael Yadin that although the law allows any Israeli government to impose Israeli law on the administered territories, a Likud government would not do so as long as there were peace negotiations.

Shoval was reported to have described this new position as a "clarification of the Likud's position," and that it would allow both parties to stick to their principles because a coalition government would promise to "go to the people" before making any changes in the West Bank.

According to the report, the compromise was made with the full authorization of Likud leader Menachem Begin, who, according to Shoval, is anxious to "change the climate" of dismay and hostility that his election victory has brought about.

Shoval told "The Washington Post" that Likud should not be judged solely on Begin's recent remarks made in the first emotional flush of victory.

"There are two Begins," he said, one a thoughtful and practical realist and the other a public speaker who can respond to his audience like an actor. Begin might believe that the West Bank rightfully belongs to Israel, he added, but so did the late David Ben-Gurion, who was willing to forgo parts of the land on which Israel makes a historical claim in deference to political realities.



GET-TOGETHER. — Seated under a photo of Ze'ev Jabotinsky at Herut headquarters in Tel Aviv are the Likud's Simcha Ehrlich (left) and NRP leader Yosef Burg.

Moluccan terrorists display hostages

DE PUNT, Holland. — South Moluccan gunmen aboard a hijacked train here last night paraded two of their 50 hostages, a man and woman, outside the express blindfolded and with ropes around their necks.

A Justice Ministry spokeswoman at nearby Assen said the two hostages, clad in white, were put outside the train and were made to stand there for 45 minutes.

Asked what the gunmen's motives were, the spokeswoman said "We think the South Moluccans on the train feel obliged to show a token of their power over the passengers and to make it clear they are capable of doing with them whatever they want."

The deadline for acceptance of the demands made by the gunmen holding about 170 hostages in north Holland ticked past at 2 p.m. without incident. The terrorists, who want fellow terrorists freed, had earlier threatened to kill their captives if their demands were not met.

As the deadline approached, crack Dutch marines had donned bullet-proof vests and climbed into armoured personnel carriers near the school in Bovenmilde where 106 children aged between six and 12 are being held with six of their teachers.

They were apparently ready to try to storm the school if there was any sign that the gunmen had begun to kill their hostages.

(In London, the Defence Ministry said specialists from Britain's crack terrorist-busting Special Air Service (SAS) regiment had flown to the Netherlands yesterday to "train and advise" Dutch security forces dealing with the two sieges.)

After seizing the school and a train on Monday morning, the terrorists threatened there would be "many deaths" if their demands for the release of 21 comrades jailed for a similar hijacking 18 months ago were not met by 5 p.m.

Earlier yesterday the six Moluccan terrorists inside the school — part of an exile community of 40,000 from the Indonesian-ruled islands — had forced 30 of the children to stand at a school window chanting, "We want to live." (Reuters, AP, UPI)

Labour leads in Dutch elections

THE HAGUE (Reuters). — Dutch Prime Minister Joop den Uyl's Labour Party last night appeared heading towards impressive gains in the Dutch general election, according to computer predictions.

With 56 per cent of the vote counted, forecast by the National News Agency gave the Labour Party 33 seats in the new 150-seat second chamber of parliament, a gain of 10.

The Christian Democrats kept their share of the vote steady, and the computer forecast gave them 48 seats, a gain of one.

Complaint to UN on Egyptian violations

A complaint has been made to the UN about a number of Egyptian infringements of the interim Sinai agreement, including the deployment of an extra battalion of infantry in the limited forces zone, the IDF spokesman said last night.

In addition to the unauthorized battalion, the Egyptians have also infiltrated elements of another battalion. This brings the total of Egyptian troops to 588 more than the 8,000 allowed. The Egyptians also have 17 shoulder-fired SAM-7 (Strela) anti-aircraft missiles on the east bank and one unauthorized missile on the west bank of the Suez Canal.

These violations were confirmed by a UN observer force check. Israel has demanded the removal of the extra troops and weapons from the area, the spokesman said.

Heavy fighting near Lebanese border

BEIRUT. — Fighting raged for the second straight day in south Lebanon yesterday between Palestinian terrorists and Christian rightist militiamen, who exchanged machinegun and heavy artillery fire along the border with Israel.

Reports from the scene said the clashes, which broke out on Tuesday night and lasted until early yesterday, killed three and wounded nine persons from both sides.

The reports said Israeli artillery supported the rightists by shelling terrorist positions near Raahya al-Fukhar and Taiba.

But the bulk of the firefight was between Christian positions in Mar-

jayoun and Kisa and the nearby Palestinian-held towns of Al-Khiam, Etel e-Saki and Blat.

At least three persons were killed in a preliminary clash between rival groups on the outskirts of Marjayoun, which then reportedly escalated into a general artillery exchange.

Residents of Marjayoun said that the Palestinians had blown up water installations supplying the town, and the inhabitants were now without water and suffering hardship in the hot summer weather. They said they were complaining to the UN about what they termed an act of war against civilians. (UPI, Reuters).

U.S. envoy denies bid to impose a solution

By ASHER WALLFISH
Post Diplomatic Correspondent

U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis said in Jerusalem yesterday that his country's only role in the Middle East dispute was "as a mediator, helping to find common ground between Israel and the Arabs."

Lewis seemed to be allaying Israel's concern that Washington had drafted plans of its own to be woven into an enforced solution, as he replied to President Ephraim Katzir's welcoming speech during the ceremony to present his credentials at Beit Hanassi.

Lewis said the parties to the dispute themselves must work out a settlement. "The first precondition for a lasting peace is Arab recognition that Israel has a right to exist," he told Katzir.

He said: "No matter how difficult the problems that face our two governments, we will face them together."

President Katzir mentioned the need for "direct negotiations between the parties" and assured the envoy that "every future government will do all in its power to bring peace nearer."

Lewis went on to the government office buildings for a 45-minute conversation with Premier Yitzhak Rabin, who has returned to his post after taking leave. (Lewis will see Defence Minister Shimon Peres today.)

According to local sources, Rabin noted that Israel expected the U.S. to extend its good offices to the parties without presenting them with any peace plan of its own. He noted that

ever since the Carter Administration was installed on January 20, Israel had still not got any replies to its requests for further arms purchases.

Journalists accosted Lewis when he emerged from the Prime Minister's Office and sought his comment on the "Ha'aretz" report yesterday about an American general outline plan for a two-stage Israeli withdrawal from all the areas, virtually to the 1967 borders, in return for a full peace.

Lewis said he knew nothing about the plan and was surprised that it came to light in Jerusalem and not in Washington. Reliable informants describe the material variously as a "working paper" or an "option paper," one of a large number assigned to State Department officials at intermediate levels to provide their superiors with food for thought.

The State Department yesterday denied the "Ha'aretz" report. Spokesman Hoddling Carter told reporters that the U.S. has not come up with any such plan. Israel Embassy officials in Washington also said they had no knowledge of any such plan.

But one suggestion with reached The Post was that the State Department deliberately leaked details of the option paper to "Ha'aretz" as part of a war of nerves to impress Israelis that the U.S. envisaged total withdrawal, and that this eventually should be recognized.

Another explanation held that Israeli officials leaked the story to promote some political interest on the domestic scene.

Schindler sees no change in U.S. policy towards Israel

Jerusalem Post Staff

Rabbi Alexander Schindler, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, met with Foreign Minister Yigael Yadin yesterday to discuss the post-election political situation.

The meeting took place shortly after Rabbi Schindler and Yehuda Hollman, the conference's executive vice-president, arrived from the U.S. by El Al.

By Ben-Gurion Airport, Schindler told reporters he did not think the U.S. Administration would change its policy towards Israel because of the new regime here. Presidential advisers Stuart Eizenstat and Zbigniew Brzezinski had assured him as much.

He also said he did not think that the U.S. intended to impose a settlement on Israel.

Schindler is scheduled to meet with Likud leader Menachem Begin, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Defence Minister Shimon Peres, Democratic Movement for Change leader Yigael Yadin, and others.

Wolf Blitzer reports from Washington.

Senator Richard Stone, chairman of the Senate foreign relations subcommittee on Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, is scheduled to arrive in Israel next Thursday for talks with Israeli leaders, including Begin.

Sen. Jacob Javits, another influential member of the subcommittee, is tentatively scheduled to travel to Israel in early July, if a new government coalition has been formed by then.

Both senators, who are Jewish and pro-Israel, will convey the sense of the congressional mood here regarding the Likud victory. (Photo — page 2.)

Book stresses UK's pro-Arab stance

LONDON (JTA). — Steps by British Prime Minister James Callaghan to check the traditional pro-Arab bias of the Foreign Office are revealed in a book to be published here today.

The book, "The Diplomats," reveals that when Callaghan became foreign secretary shortly after the Yom Kippur War, he told the Foreign Office that the new Labour government would not repeat Sir Alec Douglas-Home's Harrogate speech during the preceding Conservative administration, which had inclined Britain heavily towards the Arabs.

Author Geoffrey Moorhouse writes that Callaghan was acting on the assumption that the Foreign Office was pro-Arab, pro-Catholic and pro-Europe, almost to a man.

He was told that the Office deeply resented the rumour that it fostered an Arabist mafia.

However, Moorhouse's book — based on a two-year authorized study of Britain's foreign service — more than confirms Callaghan's suspicions about the extent of pro-Arabist influence. Thus in 1976, more diplomats spoke Arabic than any other "hard language" — 183 fluent Arabists compared with 169 Russian experts and 28 who could speak Chinese.

Most of them were trained at the Foreign Office's Middle East Centre for Arabic Studies, based at Shepperton, near Beirut, until it was temporarily transferred to Jordan during the Lebanese civil war. According to Moorhouse, graduates of MECAS are a special caste within the diplomatic service. At one point, in 1975, Arabists were the private secretaries to the foreign secretary and three of his four subordinate ministers.

"Some people outside diplomacy see this Arabist influence as part of a Foreign Office plot to weigh policy against Israel," the author adds. The Shah of Iran had even complained that the British Foreign Office was populated by "white Arabs."

Arabists, on the other hand, were likely to say that every British diplomat emerging from Israel had been "brainwashed into an excessive appreciation of the kibbutz and Marks and Spencer."

Moorhouse, who sees nothing sinister in the proximity of so many Arabists to the Foreign Office politicians, defines their outlook as follows:

"An Arabist sees Britain's interest being best served by friendship to Israel and hostility to Arab nations. This is not by any means the same thing as an attitude of hostility to Israel, though it can include an exhausted feeling that if only Israel were not there the Middle East would be a much simpler place."

The book — to be published by Jonathan Cape — recalls that, in contrast with Callaghan's more pro-Israel stance, George Brown (now Lord George Brown), foreign secretary in Harold Wilson's first Labour government, transferred an ambassador from Tel Aviv "because he deemed the man was becoming too much of an apologist for his host country." Brown took the view that, belonging to a party with strong traditional sympathies for Zionism, and being himself married to a Jew, "he could very well do without the Israeli argument being rammed down his throat in every dispatch coming from his man on the spot."

The diplomat in question is assumed to have been Sir Michael Shadow, who, on retiring from the Foreign Office, became director of the Anglo-Israel Association and married a member of the Marks and Spencer "family."

Later, the Foreign Office was also embarrassed by the pro-Israel attitude of Prime Minister Wilson, whose public embrace of Golda Meir early in 1974 raised the "blood pressure of the Arabists" and provoked the Egyptian national assembly into freezing a number of commercial contracts with Britain which were on the point of being signed. It did not, however, prevent Britain from winning further large contracts with both Egypt and Saudi Arabia the following year.



Reviewing the troops... in Jerusalem's Katamon district in 1948. Menachem Begin's early career is sketched by Judith Ben-Eliezer.

Wanted! Excerpts from Howard Blum's book on the search for Nazis in America.

The Franciscans: Oikoumenikos describes the work of the Custodians of the Holy Land today.

Arab calligraphy: Nissim Rejwan turns the pages of a new illustrated book.

Alex Berlyne is prejudiced about language. A photographic animal story.

Plus all the regular features and the Weekend Dry Bones.

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Fair and dry.

	Yesterday's Humidity	Yesterday's Min-Max	Today's Max
Jerusalem	22	18-28	29
Golan	22	14-30	30
Nahariya	68	14-28	28
Safed	30	17-28	28
Haifa Port	49	20-28	28
Tiberias	22	18-36	36
Nazareth	32	18-29	29
Afula	31	18-32	32
Shomron	28	20-29	29
Tel Aviv	68	18-27	27
B.C. Airport	21	14-31	32
Jericho	20	18-28	28
Gaza	70	19-25	27
BeerSheva	19	17-35	35
Eilat	9	22-41	41
Tiran Straits	24	22-38	39

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Italian Ambassador Fausto Bacchetti and cultural attaché Prof. Mauro Curradi visited Bar-Ilan University yesterday and were received by the rector, Prof. Milton Sprecher.

A delegation from the UJA's Waterbury, Connecticut, mission this week presented Mayor Teddy Kollek with a letter of greeting from Waterbury Mayor Edward Bergen. The presentation, which included a copy of the proclamation declaring May 16 Jerusalem Day in Waterbury, was made by Stanley Halpert, president of Waterbury's West Connecticut Jewish Community Centre, and Richard Aronheim, vice-president. (Communicated)

Prof. Shlomo Ben-Yosef will speak on "Spinoza" at today's meeting of the Tel Aviv-Jaffa Rotary Club at 1.15 at the ZO A House.

Prof. Meir Wilchek has been appointed head of the department of biophysics and Prof. Moshe Levy head of the department of plastics research at the Weizmann Institute of Science.

Staying at the Dan Hotel, Tel Aviv: Rabbi Alexander Schindler, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations.

ARRIVALS

Charles Fishman, director of the Israel Commission of B'nai B'rith International, for a series of meetings and consultations. (Communicated)



An ivory ibex found at Tel Lachish by a Tel Aviv Archaeological Institute team. The seven-centimetre-high figure dating back to the eighth century BCE, was used as the stopper of a bottle, possibly containing perfume.

Liverpool wins Europe soccer cup

ROME (Reuters). — Liverpool (England) beat Borussia Moenchengladbach (West Germany) 3-1 in the final of the European Soccer Cup last night before 57,000 fans here. Top scorers for Liverpool: McDermott (28th minute), Smith (65th), Neal, Pen (83rd); and Simonsen (50th) for Borussia.

KIOSK OR ELSE

ACRE (JTM). — Acre Mayor Yisrael Doron was slightly wounded in the hand yesterday when he was attacked by a local resident. The incident occurred when the 50-year-old man interrupted a meeting in city hall, demanding that he be given a kiosk. The mayor asked him to wait until after the meeting to clarify the matter, but the man reportedly refused, grabbed a chair with metal legs and attacked the mayor. The man was held for questioning.

Alignment starts Histadrut election campaign

Likud accused of 'double talk'

By ZE'EV SCHUL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Firing its opening broadside in the Histadrut election campaign yesterday, the Alignment accused the Likud of "double talk."

On the one hand, an Alignment spokesman said, David Levy, Likud candidate for the post of Histadrut secretary-general, was promising full employment and no cutbacks in subsidies or the cost-of-living allowance; and on the other hand their candidate for finance minister, Simha Ehrlich, was speaking of "controlled" unemployment and bringing in conservative economist Milton Friedman to advise him.

"With all due respect to Prof. Friedman's academic standing, he was so liberal that even the Carter regime couldn't stomach him and turned to other quarters for advice," Gideon Ben-Yisrael, Histadrut Central Committee member in charge of the Alignment's publicity campaign, told reporters.

The workers had good reason to fear a Likud regime, Ben-Yisrael continued. Pledges made by the Likud after the elections, he said, could impinge on some of the basic rights and privileges of the workers and threaten living standards. A strong Alignment-dominated

Histadrut was needed now more than ever to maintain the balance, and had become an economic as well as a democratic necessity.

Having shot his barbs, Ben-Yisrael promised his opponents a fair and clean fight, without personal slurs, and expressed the hope that the opponents would similarly conduct their campaign.

Ben-Yisrael pledged fuller representation on the executive to trade union leaders, labour councils and the settlement sector. Staff committees would receive at least 50 per cent of the seats of the 1,301-member convention and proportionate representation in the plenum (council) the executive and the central committee. The latter body would be reduced from 22 to 10 departments.

The Alignment, he said, intended to let its record speak for itself. The stress would be on continued full employment. This might have repercussions on the economic situation, but social considerations were of greater importance. It would be unthinkable to have children devote

themselves to national service, including the army, while their parents were unemployed, or to let discharged veterans go on the dole.

Present living standards would have to be maintained through the cost-of-living increment, occasional wage hikes and subsidies to ensure relative price stability, he said. Naftali Ben-Moshe, also a member of the Alignment's campaign staff, said that the Democratic Movement for Change (DMC) was no substitute for any of the political parties active in the Histadrut. Furthermore, there was no substantial difference between DMC's outlook and the Likud's. "It's a party of company directors — they have no real contact with the workers, and they are essentially outsiders," Ben-Moshe said.

The new Abud list headed by Hillel Seidel, former head of the Independent Liberal faction in the Histadrut who went over to the Likud before the elections and was returned to the Knesset, will be a non-party faction devoting itself in the Histadrut primarily to the problems of such groups as Holocaust survivors, invalids and pensioners, Seidel told a press conference here yesterday.

Haifa council rejects Molk

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Eliezer Molk, secretary of the Haifa Labour Council for the past eight years, was eliminated as a third candidate by his own Labour Party last night. Molk's candidature had to be affirmed by a two-thirds majority of the branch council under the party rule concerning representatives that have held office for two consecutive terms.

Molk obtained only 181 votes, with 266 against in the secret ballot. The branch council will reconvene tonight to choose between the two other candidates — Avraham Hameiri, Molk's deputy, and Moshe Ertman, who himself was eliminated for a third term in the Knesset.

20% tea tax to be abolished

Post Economic Reporter

On the recommendation of Commerce and Industry Minister Haim Bar-Lev, Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz will issue an order abolishing the 20 per cent import tax on tea in a few days. This will cost the Treasury an estimated IL20m. a year, and is intended to prevent the price of tea in Israel from rising, and perhaps even to reduce it.

Haifa judge chosen

The Judicial Appointments Committee, headed by Justice Minister Haim Zadok, yesterday recommended the appointment of lawyer David Katzir as a Haifa district judge.

U.S. basketball team arrives for cup game

BEN-GURION AIRPORT (JTM). — The U.S. team in the International basketball cup tournament arrived yesterday afternoon to play against the Israel selected today.

Ten teams are vying for the cup, and Israel has so far defeated the four against which she has played: Argentina, Brazil, Canada and Mexico. The same TWA plane brought to Israel the Dortmund (West Germany) women's soccer team for friendly games against two local women's teams: Netanya Maccabi and Bnei Yavne. The Dortmund team has played here five times, never losing a game.

EX-BACKER THREATENS TO TELL ALL
Government seeks more details of Flatto's past

Jerusalem Post Staff

The Justice Ministry is seeking more details from France on the alleged crimes of Knesset member-designate Samuel Flatto. Sharon. The ministry yesterday described the 450 pages of material which accompanied the French extradition request as "unclear."

The ministry spokesman said the material did not specify the dates of Flatto's alleged offences. This could be crucial, since the extradition agreement between Israel and France does not cover crimes committed in one country while the accused party was the citizen of another.

Flatto, who ran for the Knesset on a one-man list, assumed Israeli citizenship in 1972. The Foreign Ministry will in the next few days transmit to Paris a long list of questions which need clarification.

Flatto announced after his election that he would go to France to negotiate a solution to his problems there. He is charged with fraud amounting to 400m. French francs (IL760m.).

Flatto faced another challenge yesterday, when a disenchanted supporter demanded that he give up his Knesset mandate — or else the supporter would file an official complaint against him for irregular election procedures.

At a hastily convened press conference organized by "Ha'olam Hazeh" magazine, Raphael Halperin charged that he had information about irregular election practices committed by Flatto.

Halperin was a prominent supporter of Flatto, speaking on his behalf and appearing with him in various parts of the country during the election campaign.

Halperin said that unless Flatto gives up his Knesset seat by 2 p.m. today, he will file an official complaint against him with the Central Elections Committee. (The official election results will be announced today, but take effect only when published in the official gazette, "Reshumot," next week.)



Raphael Halperin during a karate demonstration.

Although pressed by reporters, he refused to reveal what these irregularities were. He did say, though, that the information could possibly result in the cancellation of Flatto's mandate.

Halperin, a former champion wrestler, said that following his ultimatum to Flatto, delivered this week, he had received calls from Flatto's lawyer, threatening law suits. An anonymous phone caller even threatened his family with violence.

After these calls, Halperin decided to leave his signed deposition with two Tel Aviv lawyers, "in case anything should happen."

Halperin said he had decided on this step because Flatto has given no sign that he intends to fulfil his campaign promises. Sitting in and taking notes was Jacques Ben-Odis, Flatto's translator. He had no comment to make about the charges.



Rabbi Alexander Schindler wipes his eyes as he meets with reporters on his arrival at Ben-Gurion Airport. With him is Yehuda Hellman. (Israel Simionsky — Israel Sun)

Dayan agrees to be FM

(Continued from page one)

Dayan tacitly confirmed the report. Reached over the phone at his home in Zahala he asked this reporter: "Who made the announcement?"

"OK, they've issued it — so it's announced." But he refused to answer questions, nor explain what is meant by his having agreed "in principle."

"I don't want to say anything about it," he said.

A senior Likud source said Begin had approached Dayan several days ago and Dayan had replied he wanted time to think it over.

The source said that Dayan went to see Begin at Ichilov Hospital here at 8.30 last night and gave his agreement "in principle." Begin then informed the other Likud leaders, over the phone.

This reporter had called Dayan on Tuesday to ask whether any feelers had been put out towards him to be foreign minister. Dayan had replied: "Nothing whatsoever."

Dayan reportedly wanted a signed undertaking that elections will be held before Israel sovereignty is extended to Judea and Samaria or Israeli law imposed in those territories — if one of the coalition partners should demand this.

Begin reportedly offered an undertaking not to impose Israeli law in Judea and Samaria as long as negotiations with the Arabs are underway.

Dayan may decide not to assume his seat in the new Knesset. Late last night it was not clear

whether other Knesset members would follow Dayan out of the Alignment. When Dayan had considered running with the Likud, MK Amos Hadar was considering following him. But Hadar told The Post at midnight he did not intend to follow Dayan out of Labour.

Defence Minister Shimon Peres, who has been Dayan's close associate, refused to comment. "I don't know whether the report is true, so why should I comment," he told The Jerusalem Post.

Dr. Yosef Burg, the National Religious Party leader, said he had been told Dayan would be approached and had not opposed the move.

He said there are "two levels" to Dayan's decision. Dayan is familiar with the political and security aspects of foreign policy, Burg said. And internally his significance because Dayan, who was elected on a Labour ticket, is joining a Likud-led coalition. "It remains to be seen whether this move will involve himself only or whether it presages a change in at least part of the Alignment," he said.

Israeli fourth in women's world bowls

WORTHING, England (Reuters). — At the end of the penultimate day of the singles at the Women's World Bowls Championships here yesterday, Helen Gordon of Israel was in joint second place two points behind the triple leaders.

In her third game yesterday Gordon lost a protracted match against June Bell of Canada 21-16.

Yadin hints DMC playing down vote-reform in coalition talks

By ABYEH RUBINSTEIN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Prof. Yigael Yadin last night reported to the national council of the Democratic Movement for Change on coalition negotiations with the Likud. Yadin made no mention of electoral reform, the party's original plan, and spoke in a way that indicated he is all for joining a Likud-run coalition.

Yadin said that at Tuesday's DMC meeting with the Likud negotiating team he had asked that foreign policy and defence be discussed first. This was not, he said, because the rest of the DMC's seven "minimum conditions" were not important, but because the question of territories and settlement was the one on which the two parties were farthest apart.

If the Alignment, rather than the Likud, were forming the government, then the DMC's election planks on social and economic problems would have constituted the stumbling blocks to a coalition agreement, Yadin said.

Yadin's silence on electoral reform is surely significant. As soon as it became clear that the Likud would form the next government, it was felt in DMC circles that two of the seven minimum points were likely to rule out a Likud-DMC

partnership: the one on electoral reform and the one on foreign policy. Point 5 of the seven points reads: "Immediate legislating of a law on constituency-personal-proportional elections, and the holding of new elections under this system within two years."

Yadin was applauded yesterday when he said the DMC council would not be asked to approve any decision to enter a Likud coalition under pressure of time. The question deserved an inclusive debate and could not be settled in an hour or two, he said.

A number of expressions used by Yadin indicated that he is all for joining a Likud government. "In coalition negotiations, it is out of the question for any potential partner to say: 'Accept my platform — or goodbye.'"

"We must be open-minded." "There will be ideological problems, but we must consider what is best for the country."

Yadin's report on coalition negotiations was the first item on the agenda, but not the main one. The principal business of the evening was to elect a new secretariat to replace the temporary one and to decide whether to run in the Histadrut elections on a joint list with the Independent Liberals' Ha'oved Hazionim.

NRP, Likud agree

(Continued from page one)

bills changing the status quo are tabled.

Sources in both parties said no differences emerged on the future of Judea and Samaria and on settlement there. One source said he expected the coalition agreement to state that every Jew has, in principle, the right to live wherever he wants but the government will decide where and when such settlements will be established.

There was no debate about portfolios. An NRP source said the negotiating group will meet 5 p.m. Sunday, an hour before the meeting with the Likud, and may discuss this point. The NRP is believed to covet the deputy premiership — if the DMC does not join the cabinet. Burg is believed to want the interior portfolio (which will include the police) and MK Zevulun Hammer wants to be education minister.

The NRP has a very strong trump card should it decide to form a coalition with the Alignment, the DMC may follow suit.

Meanwhile, the NRP is apparently trying to persuade the ultra-orthodox Agudat Israel and Poalei Agudat Israel to join the coalition. The Likud, the NRP and Shlomzion control only 57 of the 120 seats in the Knesset. If the ultra-orthodox parties join, the Likud could form a coalition of 62 Knesset members without the DMC. That may force the latter to relinquish some of its demands. It would suit the hawkish NRP because the secular-DMC is dovish.

Accordingly, NRP leader Zevulun Hammer yesterday went to Bnei Brak to meet the Rebbe of Viznitz for an exchange of views.

An Agudat Israel leader said, however, that his party is in a hurry to join a coalition. Agudat Israel is waiting for the outcome of the talks with the DMC, he said. If the talks fail, his party will be in a position to

gain many concessions, the source reasoned.

The source, who asked not to be identified, said there were "informal contacts" between Agudat Israel and the Likud. MK Shlomo Gross said his party is ready to talk to "anyone who will invite us." But Gross and MK Yehuda Meir Abrahamovitch said that so far no one has invited them.

Shlomzion's "inner council" of 12 was divided yesterday on whether to become a faction in the Likud bloc. The council is to continue its debate on Sunday. A party source said the movement's leader, Aluf (Rea) Ariel Sharon, favoured the merger.

Shlomzion sources have expressed dismay at the fact Likud's Ezer Weizman, and not Sharon, is slated for the defence portfolio. But a Shlomzion source told The Jerusalem Post that Sharon was not behind these "expressions." Sharon has publicly declared the coalition should be formed quickly without argument over portfolios.

The Alignment, meanwhile, is reported trying to dissuade other parties from joining a Likud-led coalition. A senior party source told The Post they would try to dissuade the DMC from joining, and a DMC source said that Meir Amit and David Golomb (who had quit Labour recently) had received many calls from friends.

An Agudat Yisrael source claimed party leaders had met Defence Minister Shimon Peres and Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz who "asked us not to hurry to join the coalition."

But one Agudat Yisrael Knesset member said the only meeting he was aware of was when MK Shlomo Lorincz and Rabinowitz met at the funeral of the Jewish Agency's Aviad Yaffe.

Poalei Agudat Yisrael's Avraham Verdiger said such a Labour move was senseless: "What have they got to sell?" he asked.

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Herzog to tell Waldheim off

Jerusalem Post Correspondent
UNITED NATIONS. — Israel's envoy to the UN, Chaim Herzog, was late yesterday expected to complain to UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim about his comments at a press conference last Thursday on the Likud victory in Israel.

Waldheim told newsmen in Geneva that the situation created by the Israeli elections would be "unlikely to facilitate the process of negotiations."

Reliable sources said Herzog would tell Waldheim the statement constituted an unwarranted intrusion into the internal affairs of a sovereign state.

At the same meeting, the ambassador was to convey Israel's formal approval of a six-month renewal of the UN force on the Golan Heights. The Security Council was scheduled to meet today to extend UNDOF's mandate, due to run out next Tuesday.

Fahd-Carter

(Continued from page one)

peace, to keep the process alive, to make sure that no one closed the door for a settlement that would provide a just and lasting peace."

The president said that he did not feel the Saudi visitor expected the U.S. to pressure Israel. "I think not," Carter said. "I think it's obvious we have some influence in Israel and also in the Arab countries. We obviously have no control."

In response to a question about whether Begin's victory has closed the door on further progress, Carter said: "I think he (Fahd) shares my view that it's too early to comment on the future policies of the new government. No one knows the composition of it yet, and I think it would be premature."

But the president did concede that much of the current "uncertainty" resulted from the Likud victory. "There's no way to predict what the formation of the government might be or what their policy might be after they are ultimately evolved," he continued. "So that is not encouraging or discouraging, but much more difficult to predict."

Carter was full of praise for Fahd. "I think we understand each other very well," the president said. "So far as I know, between ourselves and Saudi Arabia there are no disturbing differences at all. So I think I have benefited greatly from these meetings. I think his total visit here has been one that has been very productive."

At the press briefing, Jody Powell refused to rule out the sale of advanced aircraft to Saudi Arabia. He merely maintained that no final decisions have been made on Saudi requests for the F-15 or F-16 fighter bombers. Any decision, he said, would be discussed in advance with the Congress.

Uzan will leave next week for Portugal, Rumania

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Minister of Agriculture Aharon Uzan and four other officials of his ministry will leave next week to visit Portugal.

After several days the minister will go with his assistant Yair Yuval to Rumania.

The director-general of the ministry, Reuven Eliand; Ya'acov Sagiv, head of the extension service; and Dalia Harel of the planning authority will leave on Sunday to prepare the minister's visit to Portugal. Uzan and his assistant will leave on Tuesday.

The minister was invited to Portugal by the Portuguese government. The visit was delayed by the elections. During his stay in Portugal and Rumania, the minister will sign agricultural assistance agreements with these countries.

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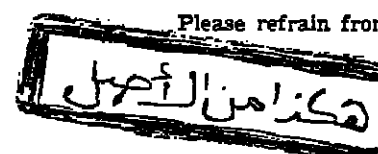
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With deep sorrow we announce the sudden death of

HANS ELCHANAN KUNSTADT

The funeral will take place at 3.30 p.m. today, Thursday, May 26, 1977, at the Holon Cemetery, meeting at the main Cemetery gate.

Please refrain from condolence visits.



Ingrid Kunststadt family and friends

Hechal Shlomo
Jerusalem

mourn the untimely passing of

AVIAD YAFFE

and express their sympathy to Ora and all the bereaved family

Controllers' go-slow could ground El Al

By ZEEV SCHUL
Post Aviation Reporter

BEN-GURION AIRPORT. — The El Al management yesterday warned that continued go-slow action by the airport control tower staff may lead to a drastic curtailment of the company's activity in the near future. A company spokesman said El Al could be forced to cancel flights — "all or part of them."

The panel of foreign (international) air carriers operating here is planning concerted protest action

No luck so far in southern oil drilling project

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Unofficial reports from sources connected with the oil exploration programme in the South indicate that current efforts at bringing up oil in commercial quantities are meeting with failure.

An off-shore rig, where first signs of oil were discovered a month ago, heavy-duty pumps are being employed as the oil will not surface from internal pressure.

Nevertheless, prospects are still considered favourable and intensive drilling will continue. At present plans are for drilling wells approximately 250 metres from one another.

Drilling in the South is conducted jointly by Hana, the government oil exploration company, and a group of independent American oil firms. One of the local oil exploration companies has a small interest in the venture.

Cut-rate 'Hypershuk' opens in Herzliya

HERZLIYA (Itim). — Five partners, including two farmers from the region, yesterday opened their "Hypershuk" supermarket and did a thriving trade in their specialties: locally grown fruits and vegetables, meat and canned goods at what they claim is 15-20 per cent less than other stores.

One couple from the Dan Region, however, complained to a reporter that some of the vegetables, including tomatoes, were more expensive than in other stores; but even they left the "Hypermarket" heavily laden with purchases.

The "Hypershuk," in a former hangar of the airfield near the Nahlat Ada quarter, will be open from the afternoon till 10 p.m.

U.Z. Greenberg's life, works on show

Special to The Jerusalem Post

It was quite unintentional that an exhibition devoted to the life and work of the fiery Revisionist poet, Uri Zvi Greenberg, was a Herut Member of Knesset for two years, opened at the Jewish National and University Library in Jerusalem two days after the Likud's victory at the polls. Preparations had begun by the Library's Manuscripts Department five months previously.

"Most of the material on display is new to many people, for it is largely unavailable, has not been reprinted and is hard to obtain," says Hanan Hever, a third year student of literature and philosophy who helped mount the exhibit.

The wealth of Greenberg's works, his spiritual development and life history are known only to a select circle. The general public does not have easy access to contact with the material.

Uri Zvi Greenberg, now over 80, refuses to have his works reprinted and books that have been published many years ago have become collectors' items. Exhibits include not only a selection of his Hebrew and Yiddish poetry (incidentally, a number of the Yiddish poems have been translated especially for this exhibit, by Shlomo Zuckerman, and have been included in the catalogue with the poet's permission) but also documents, letters, and photos.

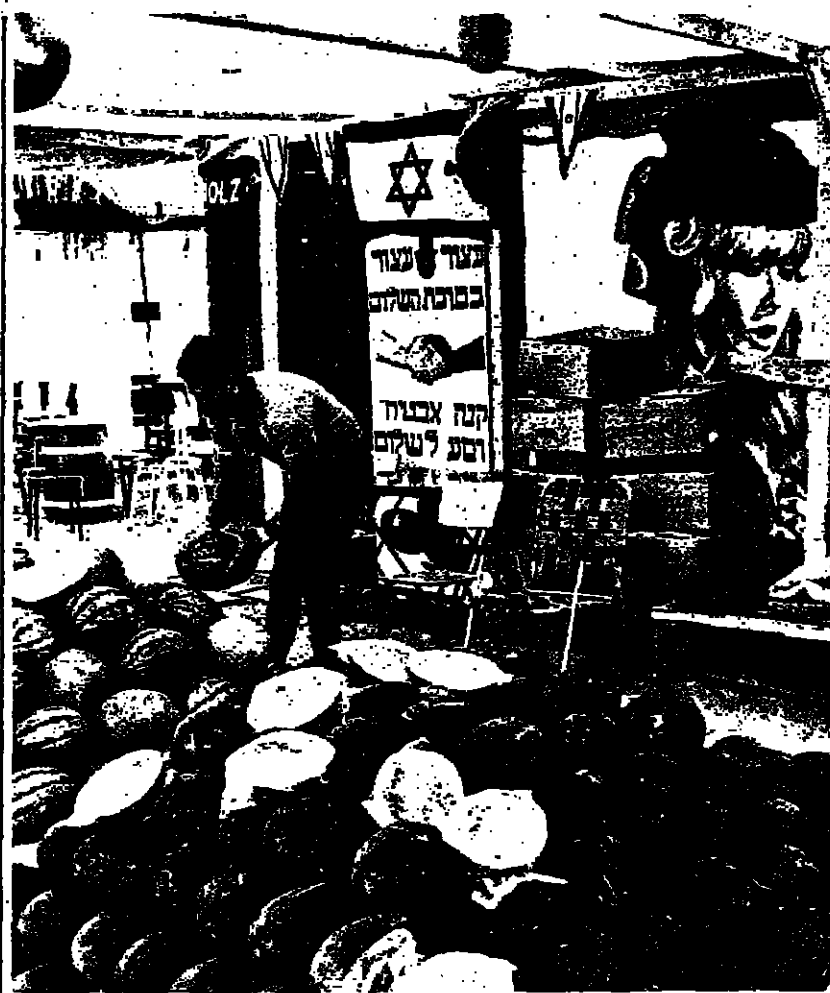
One of the interesting items is an advertisement Greenberg placed in the newspaper "Kuntress" about ten days after his arrival in Palestine in December 1923. It announces his arrival in these words:



Uri Zvi Greenberg

"To my loved ones across the sea: I have arrived safely. My address: 'Kuntress' editorial offices, Jaffa-Tel Aviv, Eretz Yisrael. Uri Zvi Greenberg. Foreign press please take note."

Another item is a letter, quite personal in nature, written to Greenberg in 1929 by Berl Katznelson, who was then the editor of "Davar." Despite the strained relations between the two men, Katznelson asks Greenberg to write a special article on the 28th anniversary of Hahibah. "It is not for my pride or that of our forum that I am concerned, but for the honour of our people, really." It is signed



As the watermelon season opens this stand was set up along the Jaffa-Ras Yam boundary, selling watermelons and playing recorded music.

Dan secretariat withdraws resignation, election plans

By YITZHAK OKED
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The secretariat of the Dan bus cooperative has withdrawn its resignation and cancelled its decision to hold general elections for the cooperative's elective bodies half a year before scheduled.

The resignation was withdrawn on Tuesday after drivers explained to the secretariat that this had not been the objective of their wildest strike last Thursday. The strike only lasted three hours and was called off when the cooperative members learned that the strike had prompted the secretariat to resign.

The Dan assembly, the cooperative's highest elective body, had sharply criticized the drivers for striking and threatened to penalize them.

Yossi Horowitz, chairman of the secretariat, told The Jerusalem Post that he had explained to the drivers that, in a cooperative, when a member strikes, he is actually striking against himself.

Both sides decided to sit down and try to find a solution, Horowitz said.

The main reason for the strike was the workers' complaint of overwork. Some said that since Dan took over United Tours, buses were taken from regular lines to handle the tours, thereby increasing the load on the remaining drivers, who also had to deal with irritated passengers forced to wait longer for buses.

Horowitz claimed that the main problem is traffic congestion and, until this problem is solved, the drivers will have to work harder.

Sixth Fleet sub visit to Haifa begins today

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The U.S. Navy nuclear-powered submarine Bluefish is due here this morning, to start a short "crew recreation" visit of several days as guests of the Israel Navy.

The Bluefish is one of 37 Sturgeon-class attack submarines, built for the U.S. Navy during 1968-1975. Designed to seek out and destroy enemy submarines, she does not carry nuclear missiles.

Armed for fighting submarines, her weapons are anti-submarine rockets and torpedoes, and she carries advanced electronic equipment.

Commissioned in April 1972, the Bluefish was built by the electric boats division of General Dynamics and cost an estimated \$90m. She is 89 metres long, has a surface displacement of 3,880 tons, and 4,500 tons when submerged. She has a particularly high conning tower, some seven metres above the deck. Her speed is 20 knots on the surface and 30 knots submerged.

The Bluefish will anchor in the bay and will not enter the port. She will receive visitors only from the Israeli Navy. She is attached to the U.S. Sixth Fleet and her visit will be the first of a nuclear-powered submarine in Israel, although last year the U.S. Navy sent a nuclear-powered cruiser for a visit to Haifa.

Ex-Yard man to plan Kuwaiti oil defences

KUWAIT (AFP). — The Kuwaiti government has commissioned Robert Mark, former head of Scudland Yard, to prepare a defence plan to guard public institutions in the country. Deputy Interior Minister Abdul Latif Souweini announced on Tuesday.

Knowledgeable sources here said the "institutions" were mainly oil installations.

Mark was also commissioned to plan a training programme for Kuwaiti security men.

'Exploding' U.S. oil imports causing \$23b. trade deficit

TOKYO (UPI). — America's foreign trade deficit may reach \$23b. in 1977, with an "explosive" growth of oil imports as a contributing factor, U.S. Treasury Secretary W. Michael Blumenthal said yesterday.

He said the situation was temporary and was not affecting the soundness of the American dollar.

"In trade we expect a deficit in excess of \$30b., probably around \$23b.," Blumenthal told the International Monetary Conference, a bankers organization.

Blumenthal said that the American trade deficit was helping other western and Third World countries cope with the problem of covering enormous financial deficits caused by oil price increases since 1973.

He said wealthy countries such as Japan, West Germany, Switzerland and the Netherlands also should be content to lose money for a while to contribute to the stability of the international monetary system.

"The current accounts position of the U.S. has shifted dramatically, from a surplus of \$11b. in the recession year of 1975 to a deficit this year of perhaps \$10b. to \$12b.," Blumenthal said.

(Current accounts is the measure of the amount of money a country is making or losing in international business. It includes trade surpluses or losses and money earned or lost in other ways.)

"We accept the shift. We can sus-

tain it, although we would not expect the deficit to continue at this level indefinitely. What is now required is a shift in position of surplus countries such as Germany, Japan, Switzerland and the Netherlands," he said.

A news conference after his speech, Blumenthal said the situation is temporary.

"The position of the dollar has remained strong," he said. "The high trade deficit of 1977 is partly due to energy needs in the early part of the year due to cold weather. Also the American economy has recovered from the recession ahead of the economies of other countries. The demand for imported goods in the U.S. is running ahead of that in other countries."

Suspected pushers arrested in Jaffa

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. Two suspected pushers and 10 suspected buyers of illegal drugs were arrested in Jaffa early yesterday morning.

Police believe the alleged pushers were operating out of a small coffee house in the area of Rehov Kedem.

Police confiscated 17.5 grams of opium, 86 Prodomol barbiturate pills and a small quantity of hashish.

Prodomol sells for IL20 on the street in Jaffa. In North Tel Aviv the drug (which also can be bought by prescription from pharmacies) is sold by pushers for IL30-IL40. (Prodomol, in sufficient quantity, is hallucinogenic.)

A finger of hashish, which ranges in weight from 2.5 to 3 grams, depending on the supply, sells for IL20 in the Hatikva Quarter and IL30 in the Shabaz Quarter. In Jaffa, the price can vary between IL120 and IL150. A "fix" of opium — between a quarter of a gram and half a gram, sells for IL120 all over.

Kupat Holim heads drive to promote home kidney dialysis

By YA'ACOV ABDON
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Israel is among the leading countries in the care of kidney patients who need regular dialysis with artificial kidney machines, Haim Doron, medical director of Kupat Holim, said yesterday.

Attending the opening of two new departments at the Carmel Hospital in Ahuza, Prof. Doron said Kupat Holim was now promoting home treatment of kidney patients by lending them the equipment free of charge. The cost was borne by a joint government-Kupat Holim fund. Home dialysis costs less than half what it does in hospital, which totals IL180,000 annually per patient.

The other advantage of home treatment is that it interferes much less with the patient's daily life than going to hospital, said Doron.

This year, the government and Kupat Holim each paid IL1,200,000 into the joint dialysis equipment fund. Each set for home treatment costs IL8,000.

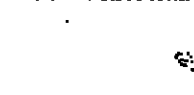
The number of patients whose life

depends on artificial kidneys was 375 in 1975 and 462 last year. "It increases by about 100 patients every year," said Doron, who paid tribute to the zeal of Dr. Yossi Levy of the nephrology department at the Sharon Hospital for his drive to introduce home treatment. So far 49 patients are being treated by this method — 48 are Kupat Holim patients, he said.

An alternative to home treatment is regional dialysis centres, the first of which was set up at Ness Ziona where 18 patients are treated. There the cost is IL750 per treatment, 50 per cent more than home dialysis, but still substantially less than the IL1,200 cost of the hospital service.

Carmel Hospital, opened at the end of last year, has now put 320 of its projected 405 beds into use. Yesterday it opened its nephrology department and an intensive-care unit for heart-attack patients. Kupat Holim will this year spend much of its development budget on the expansion of Soroka Medical Centre in Beersheba, Doron said. Next on the list are local clinics and medical services, including dental treatment.

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Sweaty palms operation is big in Israel

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Operations to stop excessive sweating of the palms, replacing human heart valves with artificial valves made of the outer lining of pigs' hearts, and a new method of "cooling" the temperature of a newborn baby so he has a better chance in open-heart surgery are some of the topics which will be discussed at the forthcoming European Society of Cardiovascular Surgery, opening here on Monday.

The conference will bring several hundred surgeons from 19 countries for three days of meetings. More than 100 scientific papers will be read.

Dr. Raffi Walden of the Sheba Medical Centre noted that the operation to stop perspiration of the palms — cutting a specific nerve — had become popular in Israel. "More than 200 such operations have been performed in the past four years, and hundreds of persons, both men and women, are waiting their turn," he said.

Today, Israel is the world centre for such operations, he added, "and it's not only because Israelis are such big shirt-sizers." The reason is that Israel is a hot country, and hundreds of Israelis work in highly technical fields where sweaty hands spoil their work.

Dr. Bernardo Vidne of Beilinson Hospital reported on a new method to cool babies before open-heart operations. (The method, used already abroad on 10 occasions, was developed together with Dr. S. Subramanian, chief of cardiovascular surgery at Children's Hospital in Buffalo, N.Y. Subramanian is also coming to the conference.)

Formerly, once the baby was anesthetized, his body was surrounded by ice-filled bags or his body was placed in cold water. Both methods caused uneven cooling of the body and frostbite in some cases. The new method consists of cooling the baby's body by cold air circulating continuously around it.

Prof. Mark Mozes of Sheba, chairman of the local organizing committee of the conference, said the fact that the European society had agreed to hold its meeting here was indicative of the high opinion its members hold regarding heart and blood-vessel surgery in Israel.

"They don't go to a country where they have nothing to learn and nothing to see," he explained.

A 10-MINUTE colour film on Tiberias' hot springs and tourist attractions, "The Warm Heart of Tiberias," was given its premiere screening at the Ganei Hamar Hotel there yesterday. The film, financed by the Hot Springs Company, is to be distributed worldwide.

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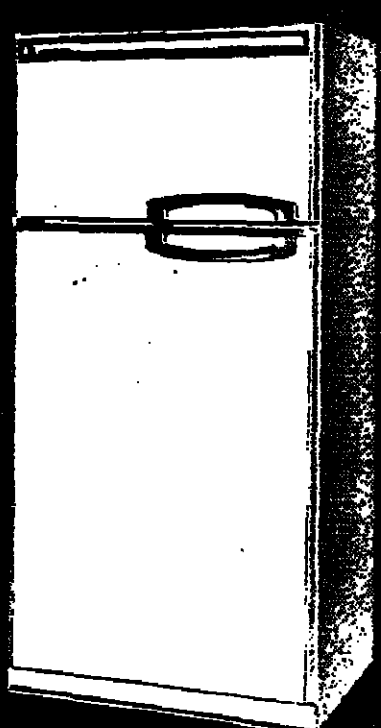
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Particulars and bookings from Neviot Diving Centre, Doer Eilat. Tel. 058-3667, 058-6191.

U.S. publishers plead for Shcharansky

NEW YORK (AP). — An association of America's biggest book publishers urgently requested that the Soviet Union, in a letter released on Tuesday, free dissident writer Anatoly Shcharansky, who translated correspondence between Nobel laureate Andrei Sakharov and U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

"We fear that if charges are brought, this will serve to discourage communication between our two nations and particularly between writers and publishers," the Association of American Publishers Inc. said in its letter.

Signed by Winthrop Knowlton, president of Harper & Row and chairman of the International Freedom to Publish Committee, the letter was posted by air mail to communist party chairman Leonid

Brezhnev on Monday and also delivered to the Soviet Embassy in Washington on Tuesday.

Shcharansky, imprisoned since March 15, is reportedly being held incommunicado without having been charged formally with any crime.

The writer, the publishers said, was a close Sakharov associate who may be accused of espionage and treason, according to articles in the Soviet newspaper "Izvestia."

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The Israel Lands Administration announces that registration for the above scheme allotting 10 plots for the erection of 19 build-yourself flat units has opened.

Registration opened at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, May 25, at the Kadima Local Council offices, and will end on Friday, June 24, 1977 at 12 noon.

Further details and a prospectus are available from the offices of the Kadima Local Council and at the Tel Aviv District Office of the Israel Lands Administration, 88 Derech Peta'h Tikva, Tel Aviv, during usual working hours.



Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito cutting 85th birthday cake at Belgrade reception yesterday. Tito was also celebrating his 40 years as head of the Yugoslav Communist Party. (AP radiophoto)

Cubans move into Ethiopia to fight Arab-backed secessionists

By DAVID E. OTTAWAY
The Washington Post

MOGADISHU, Somalia. — Cuban military advisers have begun arriving in Ethiopia to help the Marxist military government there to survive and maintain the country's fragile national unity, now being threatened by secessionist movements in two parts of the country.

Western diplomatic sources here said a first contingent of about 50 Cuban military experts arrived in Ethiopia two weeks ago, and they estimated that a total of 400 to 500 would be sent there in the next few weeks.

The beginning of Cuban military assistance to the military government appears to indicate that President Fidel Castro is prepared to involve his country in yet another major internal African conflict, in direct conjunction with Soviet aims and designs on the continent — this time in northeast Africa, along the vital Red Sea waterway.

It follows the arrival of large quantities of Soviet arms there, including 150 tanks and armored personnel carriers, and seems to be part of a closely coordinated Soviet-Cuban plan to compensate the Marxist regime of General Mengistu Haile Mariam for its recent loss of U.S. military assistance.

Last month, Ethiopia cut all of its military ties with the U.S., abruptly ending its almost total dependence on American arms and military aid over the past two decades.

The Cuban leader's decision to become involved in the Ethiopian political quagmire was almost certainly taken during his visit to Addis Ababa in mid-March, during which he held long, secretive talks with Mengistu and was briefed in detail on the multiple troubles facing his military government.

It marks Cuba's second military engagement in an African civil war of uncertain outcome and duration. Its first one in Angola two years ago, requiring the commitment of more than 20,000 combat troops, ended in the victory of the Soviet and Cuban-backed Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) over its two pro-Western and South African-backed rivals.

But Cuba has been obliged to maintain thousands of troops there to assure the survival of the MPLA government, which is still facing a threat from dissident elements.

Castro's commitment to the Ethiopian government eventually proved to be even more demanding and costly than that to the MPLA in Angola. In addition, unlike in the

Angolan civil war, the Cuban leader this time is pitting his prestige and his country's limited military manpower against secessionist and opposition groups in Ethiopia that have strong backing from the oil-rich conservative Arab states. Thus Cuba is becoming directly involved for the first time in the mainstream of Arab as well as African politics.

There is considerable concern here and in Addis Ababa about how far Castro intends to go in his bid to bolster the Ethiopian Marxist regime. Arab diplomatic sources here believe Cuba is prepared to send combat troops as well as advisers to Ethiopia and that several thousand Cuban soldiers are now on their way to that country. But Western diplomats in the region doubt that Castro has made up his mind to send more than military advisers, at least at this early stage.

It is thought here that the first task of the Cuban military advisers will be to help command and coordinate the operations of the huge volunteer peasant army the Ethiopian government is now forming to fight in the northern provinces of Gondar and Eritrea and the eastern Ogaden region, where secessionist groups have taken over most of the territory and even many of the smaller towns.

The Cubans are likely to find that the nature

of the fighting in Ethiopia is far different from what they experienced in Angola. Unlike the Angolans, the Ethiopians have traditionally produced tough soldiers and the army has a long military tradition.

The guerrillas fighting for the independence of Eritrea, operate in extremely rugged mountainous terrain riven by deep gorges; and they have proven even tougher fighters, despite the Ethiopian army's superiority in arms and aircraft.

The Somali insurgents in the Ogaden region, which covers perhaps one-third of the entire land mass of Ethiopia, have also quickly proven a match for the thinly stretched Ethiopian army, and are extremely well armed.

For these reasons, Western defence attaches stationed in Addis Ababa have tended to doubt that the presence of a few hundred Cuban military advisers alone will dramatically change the present course of the war in either Eritrea or the Ogaden. Whether the Ethiopian military government can crush the secessionist movements under way there through sheer force of numbers with its peasant army is also questionable.

In addition to providing military advisers for the peasant army, Cuba is also expected to become involved in the personal security corps of Mengistu.

Podgorny removal seen as prelude to Brezhnev combining top posts

MOSCOW (Reuters). — Soviet President Nikolai Podgorny, abruptly dropped on Tuesday from the Communist Party's ruling Politburo, yesterday appeared to be easing out of the public view in a probable prelude to his removal as head of state. There was speculation that he might be replaced by Communist Party chief Leonid Brezhnev.

Although Podgorny last month spearheaded a Kremlin drive for closer ties with black states of southern Africa and guerrillas fighting white governments there, his signature did not appear under a Soviet message, marking "African Liberation Day."

Western diplomatic analysts, meanwhile, said they were con-

vinced that the 74-year-old president — who appeared in robust good health on his return from a potentially tiring tour of Africa in April — had not stepped aside because of illness or age.

They centred their speculation on the possibility that Podgorny may have expressed disagreement with the new draft constitution for the Soviet Union, approved on Tuesday by the central committee of the Communist Party.

Text of the draft which some sources had suggested might appear in newspapers yesterday, has not yet been released. But the government newspaper "Izvestia" — which normally appears in the evening in

Moscow — scheduled a special edition for today.

One line of speculation being strongly followed among western analysts sees Communist Party chief Brezhnev also assuming the presidency, perhaps in a modified form, under the new constitution.

Since the ouster of former prime minister and party chief Nikita Khrushchev in 1964, no one man has held more than one of the Kremlin's top three posts.

Next month the Supreme Soviet, the Soviet parliament, meets for its summer session; and observers said there seemed no doubt that Podgorny would then step down formally from the presidency, which he has held since 1965.

French gov't strike won't halt austerity

PARIS. — French Prime Minister Raymond Barre said he was determined to carry on with his austerity programme despite a general strike on Tuesday that brought millions of workers out in protest.

The 24-hour stoppage, the biggest since the student-worker riots of 1968, disrupted industry and public services throughout France, and Barre warned: "Destruction of the country's economic prosperity must be avoided."

Late Tuesday night the main trade union groups called on the government to discuss their grievances. With schools closed, newspapers failing to appear, and public transport reduced to skeleton services, workers staged demonstrations in about 300 towns and cities.

Tens of thousands of strikers staged a mainly peaceful march in Paris, although police fired tear-gas grenades when small groups threw bottles. Eleven demonstrators were arrested. Near the southern town of Carcassonne, about 250 wine-growers built blazing barricades on a railway track.

Unions and employers agreed that the chemical industry was the most severely affected, but production was also badly hit in steel and engineering. The conservative daily "Le Figaro" said yesterday that the strike had not paralysed industry, as the unions had hoped.

But the socialist daily "Le Matin" accused the government of being deaf to the strikers' demands, which it said could produce an explosion within French society; and the financial newspaper "Les Echos" called the stoppage "an important strike, the extent of which cannot be ignored by the government."

(Reuters, AP)

Spain frees rightist held since February

MADRID (Reuters). — A prominent Spanish ultra-rightist accused of setting up a clandestine arms factory in a Madrid flat was freed on bail yesterday pending trial on terrorism charges.

Chemist Mariano Sanchez Covisa, 58-year-old leader of an extreme right-wing group called "Guerrillas of Christ the King," was arrested in February after a chain of political violence denounced by the government as a plot to provoke an army coup.

His "guerrillas" have been blamed for attacks on leftists in Madrid and the northern Basque country over the last few years.

A judge ordered Sanchez Covisa's provisional liberty as leftist political parties complained that some of their members had been shot at or beaten up by extreme right-wingers while putting up campaign posters for general elections on June 15.

Also released on bail of 250,000 each were two women, alleged members of the extreme left-wing Grapo (October First Anti-Fascist Resistance Groups), which kidnapped two high officials a few months ago.

Sanchez Covisa's lawyer told reporters his client could not be kept in jail while criminals convicted of more serious offences were released under a royal amnesty granted in March.

The newspaper "Diario 16" reported yesterday that Basque industrialist Javier de Ybarra y Bove, who was kidnapped in the northern port of Bilbao five days ago, was being held by a rebel wing of the Basque nationalist guerrilla organization ETA. The report said the kidnapping was intended to sabotage secret negotiations begun by the government and the ETA last October.

Bank crisis stuns Gulf emirates

BEIRUT. — A flash banking crisis has stunned the oil-rich United Arab Emirates, leading to the suspension of two banks and a decision to bring all financial institutions in the UAE under the jurisdiction of the federal currency board, the independent daily "An-Nahar" said yesterday.

It said no new banks, bank branches or other financial institutions would be allowed to open in the UAE until further notice; and all 52 commercial banks in the country, with their 416 branches, would be brought under the control of the currency board, which functions as a central bank.

"An-Nahar" said the banking furor had led to panic not only in the emirates' banking sector, but also in other economic fields.

The sudden crisis stemmed from rivalries between the emirate of Dubai and central authorities in Abu Dhabi.

The Bangladesh-owned Janata Bank and the Ajman Arab Bank reportedly were suspended for repeatedly allowing their reserves to ebb dangerously low.

Central authorities in Abu Dhabi have sought to exercise more effective control over the proliferation of banking activity in Dubai, where some 40 banks with 100 branches are located.

The Ajman closure, which its officials said was touched off by rumours over the Janata trouble, was the subject of high-level talks aimed at reopening the facility, according to the WFC Corporation in London. WFC, a self-described financial conglomerate headquartered in Coral Gables, Florida, is part owner of the Ajman Arab Bank. A 40 per cent interest in the institution is owned by a family group led by the Ajman ruler, Sheikh Rashid bin Humaid al-Nahai.

(UPI, Reuters)

Argentine junta takes over paper connected to Graiver

BUENOS AIRES (UPI). — The military government, in a move unprecedented in Argentina, has taken control of the influential newspaper "La Opinion" by placing its printing and publishing companies under armed forces supervision.

In a related development, "La Opinion" editor-publisher Jacobo Timerman, held incommunicado for 40 days for unspecified "economic crimes," called his family by

telephone on Tuesday and may be allowed to receive visitors at Buenos Aires' central police headquarters.

The government's actions marked the latest steps in the army's investigation into the affairs of missing financier David Graiver, accused of managing \$17m. in kidnaps, ransom and robbery loot for the leftist Montonero guerrillas before his presumed death in an airplane crash over Mexico last August.

The army announced that a combined police-army force task force killed 16 Montoneros in a shootout in the Buenos Aires suburb of Monte Grande early on Tuesday.

Sources at "La Opinion" confirmed last month that Graiver money controlled 55 per cent of Editorial Oita, the newspaper's publishing company, and of Talleres Graficas Gustavo, the printing house, when the newspaper was founded in 1971.

By "intervening" in the two firms by decree on Tuesday, the government effectively took control of "La Opinion," patterned on the French newspaper "Le Monde" and known in Argentina for its political analysis and commentary.

U.S. general says Korean withdrawal will lead to war

WASHINGTON (AP). — The general recalled from South Korea by President Jimmy Carter testified yesterday that North Korea is building its armed might and he is convinced Carter's plan to withdraw U.S. ground forces will lead to war.

Major General John Singlaub, whom Carter fired as chief of staff of U.S. forces in Korea for criticizing the withdrawal plan, told a House subcommittee his fear of war is based on new intelligence of the North Korean buildup.

U.S. intelligence discovered this year that the North Koreans have increased their number of tanks, he testified, from 500 to 2,000 over the past four or five years. He said that in addition to the North Korean increase in combat ships and jet fighters that has already been publicly reported.

Chairman Samuel Stratton of the House armed services investigation subcommittee, before which Singlaub testified, asked if he was saying U.S. and Korean military officers overwhelmingly agree the U.S. withdrawal will ultimately lead to war.

"That is absolutely correct," the general replied.

WORKS DONE. Egyptian pilots and technicians who were sent to help operate Zaïre's air force will now be returning, Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy said, according to the newspaper "Al-Ahram" yesterday. They were sent earlier this month as an Egyptian gesture of support for Zaïre.

Angola rebels kill Cubans, claim gains in oil-rich area

LISBON. — An anti-Communist secessionist movement in Angola's Cabinda enclave claimed yesterday its forces executed 106 captured "Cuban and Angolan mercenaries" after overrunning a third government stronghold in the interior.

A spokesman said the inland town of Dingo fell on Friday and that their forces were now within 15 km of coastal Landana — the second largest town in the oil-rich area.

He said a second column was moving south for an attack on the town of Cabinda with 47 long-range artillery pieces captured from the Cubans.

"Cabinda town is our next major objective," the spokesman for the Cabinda Enclave Liberation Front (FLEC) said. They will either fall from our artillery and bullets or be driven into the sea.

FLEC launched its offensive three weeks ago and have claimed a steady advance over the territory defended by 2,000 Cuban troops and soldiers of the Marxist central government.

"We have ordered our troops to take no quarter against the Cuban and Angolan mercenaries," the spokesman said.

The spokesman said the FLEC thrust was creating panic in Cabinda, where the artillery fire of the fighting could be heard, and that non-essential government personnel were being evacuated. He said those leaving included some of the American employees by Gulf Oil Co.

The Cabinda enclave, which has huge off-shore oil reserves, is a small territory about the size of the U.S. state of Delaware. It is separated from Angola proper by the sliver of Zaïrean territory and the Congo River.

The only reference made to the fighting by the Angolan government was a communiqué last week saying three northeastern towns had been attacked by Zaïrean troops.

The FLEC replied with a claim that its forces had overrun the towns.

Zaïre armed forces yesterday recaptured the town of Sandao, close to the Angolan border, the Zaïrean news agency Azap reported.

Sandao was one of the remaining areas still held by the rebels, said to be former Katangese gendarmes, who invaded the southern province of Shaba (formerly Katanga) two months ago.

(UPI, Reuters)

New Soviet national anthem replaces one lauding Stalin

MOSCOW (AP). — The Soviet Union's leaders decided on Tuesday to adopt a new national anthem, replacing a now-outdated song written during World War II that praises former dictator Josef Stalin.

Since Stalin died and his leadership fell into disrepute, the anthem, "The Hymn of the Soviet Union," has not been sung at public occasions. Only the music, a bright march, has been played, while those in attendance either hum or remain silent.

The central committee of the Communist Party said in a communiqué that it had approved words and music for the new anthem, but details of the new song were not released.

"The Hymn of the Soviet Union" was officially adopted in 1944 in place of "The Internationale," the world Communist song that the Soviet Union had used as its own anthem since the time of the revolution.

Speculation at the time was that Stalin wanted to inspire his people to further efforts in the war and reconstruction with an anthem that was truly Soviet.

While the "Internationale" began "Arise ye prisoners of starvation, arise ye wretched of the earth,"

Stalin's hymn started "Great Russia, has welded an unbreakable union of free republics to stand forever." Lenin and Stalin were mentioned in the second verse.

The current edition of the Great Soviet Encyclopedia makes no reference to the "Hymn" even having words.

Seven killed in Manhattan fire

NEW YORK (Reuters). — At least seven people were killed and 12 injured yesterday when fire raced through a four-storey hotel and Turkish baths on Manhattan's Lower West Side.

About 80 other people fled the burning building, some leaping from upper windows while others were led down ladders by firemen.

Some of the victims were believed to have died when they jumped from third- and fourth-floor windows of the Everard Baths, which also served as a cheap hotel and was said to cater to homosexuals.

Fire department officials said others may have been killed when the roof and the upper three floors collapsed.

Rich nations' aid to Third World seen likely to cost a billion dollars

By ANTHONY WINNING
PARIS (Reuters). — The "North-South Dialogue" between rich and poor nations seems likely to cost the U.S. and its industrial allies \$1 billion in extra aid to the Third World.

In return, the Americans, Europeans and Japanese wish to remain in close touch with the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to avoid another energy crisis and price explosion like those of late 1973 and 1974.

It has taken more than a year of secret bargaining to point the way to this possible conclusion of the Paris economic dialogue, which enters its final, decisive phase here next Monday.

The outcome of the final ministerial conference next Monday to Wednesday is by no means certain. But a package deal is being assembled for the ministerial conference by the hundreds of officials who have been at work here since February last year. If approved by the ministers, it would look something like this, according to well-informed sources:

The group of eight industrial participants — the U.S., Canada, Japan, the European Common Market as a single unit, Australia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland — would offer:

- A \$1 billion "special action programme" of easy-access aid for countries with acute debt and poverty problems. OPEC and EEC/Euro countries could also be asked to add their contributions.
- A promise to engage in serious negotiations to set up a common fund that would help to steady raw-material prices by financing commodity buffer stocks.
- Tangible proof that the industrialised nations are improving their aid performance.
- Proposals to improve the way in which the debt problems of developing countries with balance-of-payments problems are handled.
- A promise to back a 10-year programme, to be worked out elsewhere, to improve transport and communications generally in black Africa.
- A promise to give developing countries more favourable treatment in multilateral trade negotiations

in Geneva.

"In order for this to be of mutual benefit, we should like something on energy, although we have not asked for it yet," said one highly placed delegate from the industrial side.

What the rich countries have in mind is some sort of continuing consultation machinery with the OPEC countries on oil supply and prices, such as now exists in the Energy Commission at the Paris negotiations.

When the dialogue was first mooted by French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing more than two years ago, the idea was for a meeting between the major oil consumers and producers. But this plan never took off because the developing countries, including the oil exporters, demanded that the negotiations be extended to take in raw materials, aid and finance as well as energy.

The industrial countries finally agreed in the hope that their first real chance to talk things over with OPEC's leading members would more than compensate for any concessions they might have to make in the other three fields.

So the dialogue was officially entitled the Conference on International Economic Cooperation (CIEC) and, since February 1976, has been conducted in four commissions: on energy, raw materials, aid, and finance.

Delegates from the industrial side insist they are not prepared to pay a high price for a continuing dialogue with oil exporters. But the fact that OPEC has moderated its price increases since the Paris talks began has not escaped them either.

At their London summit meeting earlier this month, U.S. President Carter and the leaders of the six other major industrial democracies pledged greater efforts to help the world's poor.

By the early hours of next Thursday, when the CIEC ministerial meeting will probably end, it should be clear if this promise really meant something. For the moment, the mood in Paris is none too optimistic. As one delegation chief from the oil-exporting side commented: "I have the uncomfortable feeling that the industrial countries are trying to give away as little as they can get away with."

ULPAN AKIVA NETANYA
International Hebrew Study Centre
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE
Department of Adult Education

Ulpán Akiva
For Volunteers,
Newcomers,
Israelis



Hebrew for Tourists and Newcomers

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1. COMPLETE INTENSIVE ULPAN — for all levels. Graduates will receive a Diploma from the Ministry of Education and Culture	4½ months	Sept. 18 Nov. 27
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AUTUMN COURSE for all levels	2 months	Sept. 18
3. SPOKEN HEBREW for beginners	3 weeks	May 29 June 26

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	Duration	Starting Dates
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5. ELIMINATING SPELLING MISTAKES	4 weeks	June 26 July 25
6. HEBREW READING & WRITING	4 weeks	June 26 July 25

Arabic

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Defence Service Law 5719 (1959)

(Consolidated Version)

ORDER FOR MALE IMMIGRANTS TO REPORT FOR REGISTRATION AND EXAMINATION AT DISTRICT RECRUITING OFFICES

Male Israeli citizens or permanent residents, who were born between January 1, 1925, and October 2, 1965, and who immigrated to Israel between October 1, 1949, and the date of publication of the order in Reshumot, and who by June 1, 1977, have not received an Order to Report for Registration and Examination to determine their fitness for military service, must report at the recruiting office nearest their place of residence on June 2, 1977 at 8 a.m.

Those reporting for registration should bring with them their identity card, or the registration form issued by the Ministry of the Interior, or their birth certificate, together with their immigrant card and passport.

LIST OF DISTRICT RECRUITING OFFICES:

Jerusalem Recruiting Office, 103 Rehov Rashi (Shechunat Me'or Baruch).
Tel Hashomer Tel Hashomer Recruiting Office, near Kiron.
Haifa Recruiting Office, 12-14 Rehov Omar Khayam.
Tiberias Recruiting Office, Rehov Natrat.
Beersheba Recruiting Office, 22 Rehov Yad Vashem.

ALUF-MOSHNE YITZHAK BOZEN
Chief Recruiting Officer
O.G. Manpower Branch

NOTE: The full text of this Order to Report for Registration and Examination will be published in Kovetz Hatakanot.

'THEY' AND 'US'

VIEW FROM THE NORTH
Ya'acov Ardion

IT WOULD BE a public spirited service to science if the Alignment were to will it the body of labour hegemony which expired on May 17 after a long and painful illness. Not only would our sociologists, psychologists, and political pathologists benefit from a professional autopsy. The bereaved family — the Labour Party, Ahud Ha'avoda, the kibbutz movement and Mapam — would gain at least a belated insight into what brought about the untimely death of labour hegemony, its cherished offspring, at the age of only 28.

Is there a more fitting insight to conduct such a post-mortem examination than Haifa? Nowhere did that hegemony look so healthy, robust and destined for a long and fruitful life as in that city where more people were dues-paying members of Mapai-Labour Party-Alignment even than in Tel Aviv, with a much larger population.

The Labour Party's Haifa district leaders were always proud, with good reason, of such a numerical accomplishment. It took years of effort to build it up and to keep the electorate convinced for a quarter century that labour hegemony was an undisputed blessing. Master-building of this numerical strength, and of the political power and prestige that went with it, was the late Abba Khoushy. The party's national leadership respected him for it, though for little else. In the year of his death (in 1969), the Knesset elections still gave the Alignment an absolute majority, 51.5 per cent, in the Haifa district.

In December 1973, the Alignment percentage for the district was still an impressive 47 per cent, despite the trauma of the October war, which was rendered so costly by errors of judgment and shortcomings in defence preparedness,

all Labour Party responsibilities. Even there, in the municipal polls, the loyal people of Haifa city (as distinct from the district) gave the Alignment another absolute majority, trusting candidate Yosef Almog's fervent promises.

If one goes back to the 1969 Knesset elections, one gains a better perspective and sees with convincing clarity that the Haifa supporters of the Alignment were and are not a volatile group easily swayed by passing events and impulses. Of the four largest cities, Haifa gave the smallest number of votes to Shmuel Flatto-Sharon.

All the more dramatic, therefore, was last week's drop from the 47 per cent of December 1973 to 28.5 per cent. Our post-mortem examiners will have to come up with two explanations: what happened in those three years to the traditional strength and popularity of the Alignment? And why did its leaders fail to notice their waning in time? Our Talmud teachers regarded foresight as a reliable I.Q. test. Why did the Alignment leaders, intelligent men many of them, not see the writing on the wall? Political power is a precious commodity, dear to those who hold it and enjoy its fruits. It is also a perishable one under a democratic system of government, as we witness almost every year, most recently in Sweden and India. Why then this incredible blindness and inaction in the face of growing electoral discontent?

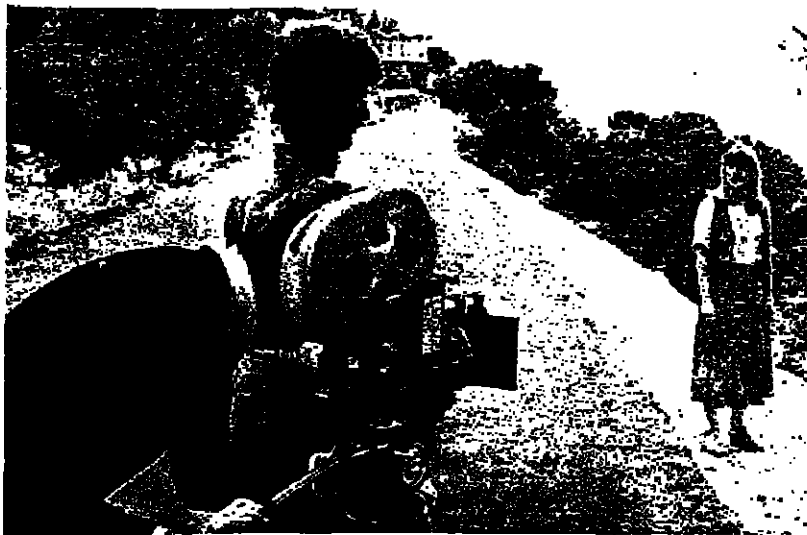
The question is all the more puzzling since nowadays long term changes in the political mood of an electorate can be and are fairly ac-

curately gauged through the clever device of public opinion polls early enough to remove, if at all possible, causes of discontent.

Polls were not even needed to spot the decline of loyalty to the Alignment. Every seasoned grassroots reporter of the media saw the green grass of Labour popularity turn yellow on the political playgrounds and passed on what he saw. In the armed services the Likud votes outnumbered those for the Alignment by about two to one. A week before the elections the Labour Party leaders of the Haifa district were asked at a press conference whether they were aware of the political preferences among the young voters and their disinterest in a continued labour hegemony. The leaders denied such a trend existed. Or perhaps they knew of it, but refused to admit it openly. Whatever it was, they did nothing to stem the trend.

The varied reasons for the unprecedented slump of the Alignment vote have been listed at length in the press: excessive inflation; erratic economic policy; or what passes by that term: the rising crime wave; corruption in high places; the public rifts in the Labour Party; the crippling and costly strikes in public services; the lingering memory of the Yom Kippur War, etc. Not all reasons cited are plausible: the Labour Party has experienced rifts at the top (Ben-Gurion vs. Raskol, Pinhas Lavon, etc.) and has emerged from them with little more than a few scratches.

But some reasons have hardly been cited or given their due weight. Chief of them has been the growing alienation between the elected and the electorate. The sense of identity vanished. The leaders preached frugality, but the Government's 22 Ministers could not be seen to prac-



HAIFA is to be the star of a forthcoming BBC "Blue Peter" programme, which will also feature the story of "Illegal immigration" to Palestine during World War II. Here a BBC team films on Panorama Road.

tise it in its administrations. The Government's top men did not set an example of conduct manifest for all to see and follow. The man in the street spoke of it as "they" and "us." In three short years the Government lost more moral authority than even a patient electorate could bear without dismay and anxiety. But it remained smug and content in its collective view that "we are okay." Nobody put it so frankly and bluntly as Mr. Yitzhak Ben-Aharon, on TV on election night: "I reject the voters' verdict." Like the French dramatist who was asked after the premiere of his play how it had gone, and replied: "The play was a great success, but the audience was a flop."

Political power long held breeds not merely corruption. It breeds self-righteousness and indifference to people's legitimate needs and moods. In the end the Alignment leaders were concerned only with what the public should, in their view, think, not what it did think in fact.

Hence they no longer troubled to ask how their voters felt about the Government's and party's performance. Instead of a dialogue the channel of communication worked only in one direction: the men at the top talked down to the electorate, convinced that they alone had the know-how and experience to steer the ship in stormy waters. Their election campaign ads said so in so many words. The outlook was "I eat c'est nous." Unwittingly the Alignment leaders drove a large segment of the electorate into a mood where it remembered a legitimate means of redress, at least once in four years: to change the men at the top. And it did that for the first time.

The electorate will never be the same again after this taste of its own power. The next coalition will perform before a changed audience, more conscious of its own role and more demanding. Last week democracy in Israel advanced from government of the people to government by the people.

Elusive Bernhardt

CINEMA
Domini Keeble

THE INCREDIBLE SARAH (Orly Tel Aviv) Director Richard Fleischer. Starring Glenda Jackson, Daniel Massey.

SARAH BERNHARDT (1844-1923) began her acting career with the Comedie Francaise, from which she was soon dismissed for irregular behaviour. It was only when she joined the Odéon Theatre, where she began to establish her famous reputation. Eventually she broke her contract and toured England, but on returning again to Paris she found her reputation ruined by a slanderous French press. Unable to find work she formed her own company and completely recaptured the public's admiration. She became the rage of Paris, an international idol, and ultimately one of the most celebrated dramatic actresses in the history of theatre. Among her greatest successes were Racine's "Phedre," Hugo's "Ruy Blas" and Sardou's "Fedora."

She was an extraordinary woman: tempestuous, capricious, talented, attractive, and her eccentricities were many. She was also a writer and sculptor, and she nursed the wounded during the Franco-Prussian war. Early in her career she bore the son of Prince Henri de Ligne, but married a young Greek philanderer. It is said she defied every convention of the day both in her life and on stage.

Producer Helen M. Strauss and director Richard Fleischer in a "free portrayal" of these events, have



Sarah Bernhardt, portrait by Nadar, 1859.

made a serious attempt to bring this indefinable genius to the screen — in the person of multi-award winner Glenda Jackson.

The settings and costumes are lavish. However, the theatrical excerpts are mostly melodramatic and disconnected, and the supporting cast — including well-known names such as Daniel Massey, Yvonne Mitchell and Douglas Wilmer — fails to give the strong balancing feedback which Jackson's own considerable power and talent require. Consequently she dominates everyone — which was true of Bernhardt in her life, but on film becomes monotonous.

Perhaps the only certain thing in common between these two women is a remarkable voice.

There are one or two compelling moments, although Ruth Wolff's screenplay is not inspiring, and Glenda Jackson looks exceptionally beautiful. But on the whole this production does her little serious credit. Bernhardt, her tragedy and greatness, has somehow eluded them all.

THE ISRAELI PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA "La Bohème" in two acts, by Giacomo Puccini (Tel Aviv, Manna Auditorium, May 31).

THIS was the first IPO operatic production in which we felt a painful discrepancy between vocal quality and theatrical production. The cast was superb, both as individuals and as a team. There was a surprising equality of level among the principals and an equal excellence among arias, duets, quartets and the sextet. The ensembles were perhaps the most exciting part of the production.

Tenor Enrico Di Giuseppe's Rodolfo had a slight coarseness in the first act (his is perhaps not the mellowest of voices), but as the performance went on, he became increasingly attractive and expressive. Mariana Niculescu de Santis, soprano, as Mimì, was perhaps occasionally slightly too dramatic, but she has a magnificent voice, fully capable of expressing all the tenderness and love with which Puccini had endowed the part. Mimì's despair, badly frailty and heart-breaking death at the end, were portrayed with moving delicacy. Soprano Johanna Meier as Musetta never over-acted and her final transformation, before Mimì's death, into a loving person was completely convincing. Rodolfo's friends, Dominic Cossa (baritone) as Marcello the painter, Willard White (bass-baritone) as Colline the philosopher, Thomas Jamerson (baritone) as Schaunard the musician as well as James Billings (baritone) as Benoit, the tragicomic landlord, were all first-class — a sparkling, fast moving group of singer actors who never lost an opportunity to prove their high professionalism.

This was all joy and pleasure, but there was another side to the coin: the theatrical execution. The opera was semi-staged, as now seems customary, possibly for economic reasons. There were no platforms or elevated stages, as in the "Magic Flute" and "Boris." Action was confined to a narrow strip of the stage,

Missed feeling of theatre

MUSIC
Benjamin Bar-Am

running parallel with the outer row of the first violins. A few pitiful props — a stove, tables, chairs, a miserable couch, on which Mimì was supposed to die, and a painter's easel — were all ranged in a straight line alongside the fringe of the stage. Theatrical speaking, there could hardly have been a poorer, less imaginative, solution. That the cast managed, despite this frustrating procrustean bed, to act at all, let alone act well, says more for these fine theatre people than for the ingenuity of the IPO. But the odds were too great. One had no feeling of theatre at all, and what could have been a great stage experience failed to materialize.

Conductor Imre Páló's approach to Puccini is firm and sober, and he curbs sentimentality and melodramatic effects whenever possible. He led the orchestra with great competence and assurance; with the singers almost on top of him, he achieved remarkable results.

The singers of the Tel Aviv Philharmonic Choir sounded as if they hardly understood why they had been brought to participate. The "Sharonit," children's choir, on the other hand, again proved its mettle and the loving dedication of its director, Ephraim Marcus.

THE ISRAELI CHAMBER ENSEMBLE, subscription concert No. 7, John Nelson, conducting; soloists: Kess Hulsman, violin; Robin Weiss-Capote, soprano; Mira Zakai, alto; Arjan Blanken, tenor; Willy Hagmann, baritone; with the participation of the National Choir Rinal,

directed by Stanley Sperber (Tel Aviv, Beit Hahayal, May 17). All Mozart Programme: Overture — "The Magic Flute"; Concerto No. 6 in A Major for Violin and Orchestra, K. 219; Serenade No. 6 in B Major, K. 232 ("Vespera solenne de Confessione," K. 232).

THIS all Mozart programme got off to a most convincing start. John Nelson turned the ensemble into a responsive and disciplined body, which played the opening overture with marked intensity.

The performance of the violin concerto, with Ensemble member Kess Hulsman as soloist, was professionally sound and in good taste, but it was not an absorbing or distinguished performance. There were few really nice inflections in the phrasing and Hulsman's tone showed little modulatory capacity. The Serenade seemed even less successful. Nelson did not bring out the interaction of the two groups of instruments, and many of the more subtle moments were lost in a rather colourless orchestral sound. But Nelson rehabilitated himself considerably in the last item, the "Vespera," though even in this piece some of the movements had a slightly mechanical flavour. There were, however, many beautiful things to rejoice in: the National Choir Rinal was in more than excellent shape, balance between choir and orchestra was masterfully graded and Robin Weiss turned her passages into great moments. Ms. Weiss was excellent in all her solo, but in the "Landate Dominum," a movement of great beauty, she out-did everything we have heard from her before. Her floating, deeply felt phrases created a feeling of elevation and spirituality. The three lesser vocal parts were attended to competently and fittingly by guest singer Arjan Blanken and local artists Mira Zakai and Willy Hagmann. Nelson's tempi were lively and his temperance drove the music energetically, but his handling of dynamics was not refined. In other words: musically one expected more. Particularly regrettable, Nelson did not exploit the full musical potential of the choir.

IN MEMORIAM:
Ezra Zelig Shapiro

Involved Zionist

EZRA SHAPIRO and his wife Sylvia came to Jerusalem to begin a new life when he was 68 years of age, five years before his death. Immigration is never easy for any immigrant; the difficulties are generally augmented for men who come at an age when most of their peers are retiring, with the pangs of change of country accentuated by those entering what are euphemistically termed "the Golden years."

Fortunately for Ezra, he did not suffer as did many other veteran Zionists, who came to Israel to retire, and to waste away in frustration, after spending their entire lives in intense communal activity. No, only does their normal work come to an end as they go on pension, their importance to the community seems to disappear at the same time. Zionist and other communal bodies that were entirely dependent on their sage counsel and their devoted work go along very cheerfully without them.

For Ezra it was different: two months after he settled in Jerusalem, he began a stint of even harder work as World Chairman of the Keren Hayesod. This made even greater demands on his energy and

organising abilities than his successful legal practice in Cleveland and his involvement there in every aspect of Zionist and general Jewish life.

It was perhaps ironic that he went to the Keren Hayesod, which is concerned with Jewish communities outside the U.S.A. He had been a founder of Israel Bonds in America in 1951, and had been for many years, Chairman of the National Executive of the Zionist Organization of America, while his wife Sylvia had been a long-time member of the National Board of Hadassah. So he was as much an expert on the Jewish scene in the U.S.A. as he was on law.

His new post involved him in learning about communities scattered around the globe; perhaps because of his legal training, he soon mastered the problems of Jews in South America, Southern Africa, Europe and Australia.

He certainly lived those last years to the full. His involvement in the new Jewish communities he met was made easier by his broad education, not only in law and the humanities, but also in Hebrew language and literature. Although he had been taken by his parents to America at the age of three, he had had a deep Hebrew education.

Thus he came to Jerusalem to live, not to die, and Israel was very good to him. Not only the Keren Hayesod, but many other organizations will miss his talents; we his friends will miss his shrewd comments on the human scene in general, and on Jewish life and affairs in particular.

PHILIP GILLON

Batsheva possessed

DANCE
Joan Cass

THE Batsheva Dance Company set themselves an almost impossible task with their new version of "THE DYBBUK" premiered last week at the Jerusalem Theatre (May 21) and at Tel Aviv's Habima. It is surprising that the cast succeeded in holding the audience's polite attention as well as they did, considering Rina Yerushalmi's deliberately negative and limited approach towards the choreography.

First of all, only three people appeared in a work that continued for over an hour. Secondly, most of what they did lacked point of beauty. Rina Schenfeld played Lea as a neurotic, frightened spinster, with small, furtive gestures. Nevertheless, she managed to be

convincing when she was alone or with Roger Briant, who played Hanan. Using the same small furtive gestures, alternating with self-flagellation and fire worship, Briant danced Hanan as a desperate psychotic, but projected conviction. Hanan's Ron, in contrast, seemed faintly embarrassed, as he played the Rabbi in a parody of an effete, yeshiva student. There was no credibility at all in his long scene of prayer and exorcism and Schenfeld, after she was possessed, seemed to lose interest in the whole thing and merely rested on the stage. The grand climax, when Lea defied the holy circle to reunite with Hanan, petered out to absolutely nothing.

At home I leafed through Ansky's play. I will resist the temptation to describe the material that leaps from the pages, begging to be used in dance imagery, because John Cranko once said: "Critics are like cranks. They can't choreograph, but this doesn't stop them from telling artists how to do it." But one quotation from the play is absolutely necessary. It comes at the close of Act One: "We are going to have a merry dance — come on!"

Kitten care

PETS' CORNER
Israella Even Chen

THE FIRST four weeks of a kitten's life will be spent eating and sleeping. Mother will keep him clean, and his owner need only change his bedding of newspaper once in three days.

Between 7-10 days old, the kitten's eyes will begin to open. Check that they are no crusts or pus forming. If the eyes are dirty, they must be gently cleaned with a bit of warm water and cotton. Proper attention to the eyes is essential: neglect can cause blindness. Strangely enough, despite her extreme care and cleanliness in all other areas, the mother cat generally neglects her kittens' eyes.

By about four weeks of age, the kittens should start to show an interest in their mother's food, if they have not begun to do so sooner. Sloppy milk can do a lot of harm to a kitten's digestion. Since the teeth are already coming through at four weeks of age, the kitten needs something for them to work on, and finely cut meat, or a prepared dry cat food product, is the ideal food. Fresh water should be available at all times, and milk must be provided in a separate bowl 2-3 times daily. Neither the food, nor the milk should be allowed to stand for more than a half hour.

During weaning, kittens may develop a bit of a loose stool. Should it develop into a really bad attack, veterinary advice should be obtained, as it may be caused by things other than a change of diet.

When the kitten is on solid food the

mother will cease to keep it clean. Provide a sand tray with sides sufficiently low to give the kitten easy access. A well adjusted mother cat will see that her kittens behave in a civilized manner. Frequently she will pop them into the sand tray almost as soon as they start getting out of the nest box.

The diet changeover should be spread over a longish period of time. It is usually convenient to make the first solid meal a mid-day one. Give only one solid meal daily for 2-3 days. The second solid meal can be introduced in either the morning or the evening. This should consist of boiled fish fillet, well strained. The third daily meal can be added by the end of the week, and may be a hard-boiled egg, a bit of leben and a prepared cat food product. In about two weeks the kittens should be completely weaned.

Even after weaning, kittens continue to learn from their mother and should be allowed to remain with her for about 10 weeks. Once she has stopped nursing altogether, kittens need 5 meals daily from their owner. White, non-fat cheese, leben, meat, fish, prepared cat foods, cooked, non-hard-shell vegetables, some dry black bread, hard-boiled eggs and rice are the basic food products they require. Do be very careful not to overfeed a young kitten. Many small meals daily are preferred to fewer large ones.

Do be sure to give a diet sheet to the new owner of each kitten. No radical change in a young kitten's diet should be allowed. It will only make him seriously ill.

At the age of three months, the kittens should visit the veterinarian for feline enteritis inoculation. Later, they should receive anti-rabies vaccinations.

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MELIA OVERSEAS TOUR ORGANISERS —

SOCCER PREVIEW/Paul Kohn

National League season closes this Saturday

TEL AVIV. — The National League soccer season comes to its end this Saturday, with the championship and relegation issues already settled.

Tel Aviv Maccabi and Jaffa Maccabi finished in the top two spots and nothing can change that. Third place will probably be decided at the Bloomfield Stadium, where Netanya Maccabi play away to Tel Aviv Maccabi and Tel Aviv Betar are at home to Petah Tikva Maccabi.

Betar look a certainty for 2 points from bottom-place Petah Tikva Maccabi, but it will require a three-goal margin to give them a chance of overtaking Netanya Maccabi, who are currently 2 points ahead. But Netanya Maccabi will not win points easily against the in-form Tel Aviv Hapoel, especially after their 1-6 trouncing in midweek in the State Cup semi-final.

Jerusalem Betar is the other team in contention for third place, and they play away against Haifa Maccabi. The Haifa side cannot save itself from relegation but will probably want to show their fans at home that there is little difference in their standard of play to that of one of the leading teams in the country. This game looks likely to end in a draw.

Beersheba Hapoel will surely want to show their supporters that their struggle to avoid relegation was not a true reflection of their strength. They play at home to Tel Aviv Hapoel, and a win could lift the Negev side well into the middle of the table.

The second club that made a remarkable recovery in the final weeks of the season was Jerusalem Hapoel, and they too play at home this Saturday. Haifa Hapoel will be visitors at the Katamon ground and, in current form, will have a tough time of it even holding onto 1 point.

League leaders Tel Aviv Maccabi, after their scintillating 6-1 win in midweek to reach the State Cup final, will be eager to end the season in championship style. They will have to do it in Acre, where it has been most difficult for visitors to win points. But who can oppose Tel Aviv Maccabi after the display Vicky Maccabi, Benny Tabak, Avi Cohen and Co. put on this week?

Six persons managed to mark correctly all 13 games on last week's Sportsoto football pool coupon, to win IL20,000 each. Those showing 12 results right will collect IL2,300, coupons with 11 will earn IL175, and 10 results will get cheques for IL23. Sportsoto announced a IL2.5m. payout after this Saturday's games.

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Israeli to referee American soccer

NEW YORK (UPI). — Abraham Klein of Israel is one of three international referees hired by the North American Soccer League to officiate at league games for the rest of the season.

Klein has officiated at the last two Olympic Games and in the Mexico World Cup, and he refereed the World Cup game between England and Italy last year.

LOTTO. — The winning numbers in yesterday's Lotto draw were 1, 5, 6, 38. First prize was worth IL507,685; second prize winners will share IL84,615; third IL169,230; fourth IL253,844, and fifth IL676,918. Total take was IL3,384,590.

IL20,000 WORTH OF Ariella Gitter scholarships and prizes were awarded to 30 Hebrew University students last week. The grants come from a fund set up by Bruno and Alice Gitter in memory of their daughter.

Baseball results and standings

AMERICAN LEAGUE				NATIONAL LEAGUE					
EAST				EAST					
	W	L	PCT.	GB		W	L	PCT.	GB
Baltimore	22	15	.595	—	Pittsburgh	26	12	.684	—
Boston	21	17	.558	1½	Chicago	23	14	.622	2½
New York	22	18	.550	1½	St. Louis	23	16	.590	3½
Milwaukee	21	22	.488	4	Philadelphia	19	18	.514	6½
Detroit	17	21	.447	5½	Montreal	15	21	.417	10
Cleveland	15	21	.417	6½	New York	15	24	.385	11½
Toronto	17	24	.415	7					
WEST				WEST					
Minnesota	25	14	.641	—	Los Angeles	31	10	.758	—
Chicago	22	15	.595	2	Cincinnati	18	20	.474	12½
Texas	19	18	.514	4	San Francisco	18	23	.439	14
California	20	21	.485	6	San Diego	16	26	.385	14½
Oakland	19	21	.475	6½	Houston	18	24	.430	14½
Kansas City	16	20	.447	6½	Atlanta	15	27	.357	16½
Seattle	16	29	.356	12					
Tuesday's games:				Tuesday's games:					
Cleveland 7, Seattle 5; Baltimore 2,				Montreal 5, Chicago 4, 13 innings;					
Milwaukee 3, New York 6, Boston 5;				Pittsburgh 5, St. Louis 2, Atlanta 3;					
California 2, Detroit 1.				Philadelphia 5, San Diego 4, St. Louis 3;					
				Los Angeles 4, Houston 2.					

CLASSIFIEDS

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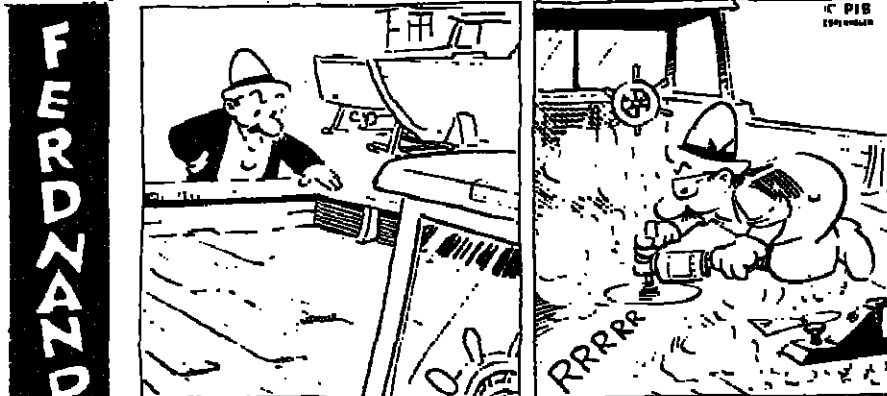
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15.25 Chinese Theatre: 16.45 French lesson, 17.00 Modern Physics.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES:

17.30 Telefele
18.00 Cartoons
18.05 LANGUAGE programmes:
18.10 News roundup
18.30 Leave it to Beaver
19.00 I have a Question: A panel answers questions from listeners
19.30 News

HEBREW PROGRAMMES resume

at 20.00 with Programme trailer
20.15 Basketball Game: Israel vs. U.S. at the Yad Elihu sports place in Tel Aviv
21.00 Mahal newscast
21.25 Second half of the basketball game
22.10 Kolbotek
22.40 Rockford Files
23.30 News

JORDAN TV (unofficial): 15.35 Car-

toon, 15.45 Brady Bunch, 19.30 News in Hebrew, 20.00 News in Arabic, 20.35 Are You Being Served, 21.10 Six Million Dollar Man, 22.00 News in English, 22.15 Crown Court

* Shows with asterisks are also on JTV 3.

CINEMAS

Tel Aviv 4.30, 7.15, 9.30

Alamy: The Dirty Dozen 6.30, 9.30

Ben Yehuda: Seven Beauties: Chen: Let's Blow a Million: Chama: One: Night Train Murder: Dekel: Voyage of the Damned 6.15, 9.30 Cinema Two: The Tenant 10.12, 12.40, 7.15, 9.30

Drive-In: The Island at the Top of the World 7.15: Mother Jugs and Speed 9.30: Gordon: Nina: Rod: Streicher: Esther: The Enforcer: Galt: The Bad News Bears: Lamer: Bluff: Maxine: Victory March: Magrabl: A Star is Born 6.45, 9.30: Ophir: Le Gang 4.30, 7.15, 9.30: Ory: The Incredible Sarah: Paris: Galileo 10.12, 12.4, 7.15, 9.30: Peers: The Last Tycoon: Ramat Aviv: The Sunshine Boys 7.15, 9.30: Boys: Who Raped Linda 10.12, 12.4, 7.30, 9.30: Shabazz: Operation Thunderbolt 4.30, 7.30: Tel Aviv: The Cassandra Crossing 4, 7, 9.30: Studio: Network 6.45, 9.15: Sharvit: Nightmovers: Only Mon. 6.45, 9.15, 9.30: 6.45 no peria. Other nights: Ramat Gan 7.15, 9.30

Amphitheatre: The Cassandra Crossing 4.30, 6.30, 9.15: Arnon: Let's Blow a Million 4.30, 6.30, 9.15: Arnon: Seven Nights in Japan: Chen: Brannigan: Miron: Expose: six non-stop peris. Marlat: 21 Hours at Munich 6.45, 9.30: Osh: A Star is Born 4.30, 6.30, 9.30: Osh: Casanova 7: six non-stop peria. Ory: The Last Honour of Katherine Bloom 6.45, 9.30: Peers: Network 4.30, 7.30: Peers: Operation Thunderbolt 4.30, 7.30: Sharvit: Nightmovers: Only Mon. 6.45, 9.15, 9.30: 6.45 no peria. Other nights: Ramat Gan 7.15, 9.30

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

TEL AVIV STOCKS
Prices up, volume down

TEL AVIV. — Tuesday's rally in equities spilled over to trading yesterday as most sectors performed admirably. However, enthusiasm seemed to be drying up as shown by the relatively low volume of trading. Interest in index-linked bonds, which was sufficient on Tuesday to establish an all-time trading record of 11,422, evaporated as quickly as it had begun. Here again volume fell to an insignificant 11,138.

Predictions of the abolition of index-linked bonds should have resulted in an extended rally, but this was not the case. A Likud-led government should also spell good news for business, but the share market should have reacted accordingly. Once again, this has not materialized. Until clear lines of policy are established and an atmosphere of confidence is created, the outlook for future performance is at best clouded.

Financial issues continued to behave well, but price movement was limited. Union Bank added a couple of points to 455 and the options reached 340. I.D.B., Hapoalim and Bank Leumi were unchanged. Mortgage bank issues moved slightly higher. Carmel gained 18 to 389 and Tefahot was seven better at 378. Shitton sprang ahead by nine to 138. Asmat had a good session on the up side, rising 38 to 538. The shares of the Industrial Development Bank were "buyers only" and were upped to 490, the preferred shares were five lower at 158.

Insurance shares were a good feature in moderate trading. Aryeh tagged on 10 to 859 while Haasneh was gaining seven to 493. Sahar slipped by 17 to 1,187, but Tzur jumped by 30 to 620. Dolek reg. was 11 ahead at 887 but the bearer shares were "buyers only" and were fixed at 557. Israel Electric Corp. returned to favour on a 34-point move to 580. Land development and real estate issues, on a percentage basis, were market leaders. Africa IL10 gained 11 to 549 while IL10C added eight to 218.

Solel Boneh, a thin float issue, was 35 ahead at 698. Property and Building moved ahead by six to 248.

Yisro, continuing its speculative action, was 11 higher at 226. Yaras gained 13 to 303 while Mahadrin added on 16 to 601. Prit-Or skipped ahead by 21 to 701.

Industrials presented somewhat more of a mixed pattern. The Electric group of shares had a good day. The IL1 shares gained 28 to 470 while the IL2 shares were adding on 16 to 860. Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals were fixed at 337.5 after the "buyers only" sign was flashed. Lewin-Epstein, reacting to recent strong rises, was "sellers only" and lowered to 628. Moller Textile was strong as it moved ahead by 14 to 270. Elite eased by 12 to 408.

Financials were not to be left out of the rising market. Elgar reacting to a balance sheet which showed a doubling of profits, was 17 higher at 347. Elern was 18 better at 386. Amisnar was "sellers only" and dropped lower to 900. Paz Investments gained 12 to 492. The investment companies of the Big Three banks all were ahead. Discount was strong as it gained eight to 290. Bank Leumi was two ahead and Hapoalim one better.

Jordan Exploration traded unchanged at 2,740, but the options jumped by 140 points to 2,390. Oz was 17 better at 267. The convertible debentures of Oz offered an interesting speculation as they carry a negative conversion premium while the conversion period is in the not too distant future.

The Nativ investment dollar crawled ahead by one agora to IL2.01. Tuesday's devaluation was an apparent disappointment to Lilienblum Street devotees, as the unofficial price dropped to IL1.13.

The General Index of Share Prices rose 0.65 per cent to 129.50.

Most active issues

Hapoalim (reg.)	339 n.c.	IL205,300
B. Leumi	250 n.c.	IL215,500
Hapoalim (reg.)	339 n.c.	IL205,300
Shares traded:		11,138
Volume:		11,138
Turnover:		\$170,000

DOLLAR-LINKED		
5% Dead Sea	b	378
5% Dead Sea Junior	b	378
5% Electric Corp. B.	r	374

PURCHASE IN DOLLARS		
Holla 22	126.3	125.1

C. of L. LINKED		
Abnorp. 1966 (1)	b	781
Abnorp. 1967 (1)	b	788
Abnorp. 1968 (1)	b	788
Abnorp. 1969 (1)	b	788
Abnorp. 1970 (1)	b	788
Abnorp. 1971 (1)	b	788
Abnorp. 1972 (1)	b	788
Abnorp. 1973 (1)	b	788
Abnorp. 1974 (1)	b	788
Abnorp. 1975 (1)	b	788
Abnorp. 1976 (1)	b	788
Abnorp. 1977 (1)	b	788

OPTIONALS		
Dev. 218	b	418.5
Dev. 219	b	418.5
Dev. 220	b	418.5
Dev. 221	b	418.5
Dev. 222	b	418.5
Dev. 223	b	418.5
Dev. 224	b	418.5
Dev. 225	b	418.5
Dev. 226	b	418.5
Dev. 227	b	418.5
Dev. 228	b	418.5
Dev. 229	b	418.5
Dev. 230	b	418.5

CONVERTIBLES		
10% I.D.B.	r	250.5
10% I.D.B. (2)	r	250.5
10% I.D.B. (3)	r	250.5
10% I.D.B. (4)	r	250.5
10% I.D.B. (5)	r	250.5
10% I.D.B. (6)	r	250.5
10% I.D.B. (7)	r	250.5
10% I.D.B. (8)	r	250.5
10% I.D.B. (9)	r	250.5
10% I.D.B. (10)	r	250.5
10% I.D.B. (11)	r	250.5
10% I.D.B. (12)	r	250.5
10% I.D.B. (13)	r	250.5
10% I.D.B. (14)	r	250.5
10% I.D.B. (15)	r	250.5

BANKS, FINANCIAL		
Bank Leumi	r	455
Bank Hapoalim	r	455
Bank Discount	r	290
Bank Elgar	r	347
Bank Elern	r	386
Bank Amisnar	r	900
Bank Paz	r	492
Bank Lilienblum	r	1,138
Bank Shitton	r	138
Bank Asmat	r	538
Bank Dolek	r	887
Bank Tzur	r	620
Bank Yaras	r	303
Bank Mahadrin	r	601
Bank Prit-Or	r	701
Bank Yisro	r	226
Bank Yaras	r	303
Bank Mahadrin	r	601
Bank Prit-Or	r	701
Bank Yisro	r	226

REAL ESTATE, LAND DEVELOPMENT AND CITIBUS		
Azoria	r	158.5
Africa Israel IL10	r	549
Mr. Land Dev.	r	218

WALL STREET		
ASA Ltd.	184	
Am Motors	44	
Amer. T. & T.	58	
AU Rich	58	
Aveo	15	
Avon	48	
Bell How	30	
Beck St.	32	
Boeing	31	
Brist. My	57	
Burroughs	57	
CBS Inc.	56	
Celanese	48	
Chase Man	31	
Chrysler	18	
Coca Cola	73	
Con Ed	28	
Crown Zall	38	
Curtis Wm	38	
Dow Chem	35	
Dupont	123	
East KDK	58	
Exxon	51	
Fair Cam	24	
Ford	24	
Gen Dynam	34	
Gen Foods	31	
Gen Motors	58	
Gen Tel	30	
Gen Tire	28	
Gulf Oil	28	
Gulf West	12	
Honeywell	27	
IBM	123	
Int. Paper	31	
Int. T. & T.	34	
John John	64	
Liton	12	
Lockheed	11	
Macy	34	
McDon-Doug	29	
Merr Lynch	18	
Min. MM	49	
Mobil	24	
Monanto	34	
NCR	34	
Oac Pet	27	
Pan Am	44	
Phil Pet	56	
Polaroid	30	
RCA corp.	30	
Royal Dutch	57	
Sears Ro	56	
Singer	28	
Sony	27	
Sperry Rand	34	
Telexone	34	
Texaco	34	
Texas Ins	58	
TWA	28	
Twent Cent	12	
U.S. Steel	43	
West Union	17	
Woolworth	23	
Xerox	34	
Zenith	23	

Hour before closing, May 25		
ASA Ltd.	184	
Am Motors	44	
Amer. T. & T.	58	
AU Rich	58	
Aveo	15	
Avon	48	
Bell How	30	
Beck St.	32	
Boeing	31	
Brist. My	57	
Burroughs	57	
CBS Inc.	56	
Celanese	48	
Chase Man	31	
Chrysler	18	
Coca Cola	73	
Con Ed	28	
Crown Zall	38	
Curtis Wm	38	
Dow Chem	35	
Dupont	123	
East KDK	58	
Exxon	51	
Fair Cam	24	
Ford	24	
Gen Dynam	34	
Gen Foods	31	
Gen Motors	58	
Gen Tel	30	
Gen Tire	28	
Gulf Oil	28	
Gulf West	12	
Honeywell	27	
IBM	123	
Int. Paper	31	
Int. T. & T.	34	
John John	64	
Liton	12	
Lockheed	11	
Macy	34	
McDon-Doug	29	
Merr Lynch	18	
Min. MM	49	
Mobil	24	
Monanto	34	
NCR	34	
Oac Pet	27	
Pan Am	44	
Phil Pet	56	
Polaroid	30	
RCA corp.	30	
Royal Dutch	57	
Sears Ro	56	
Singer	28	
Sony	27	
Sperry Rand	34	
Telexone	34	
Texaco	34	
Texas Ins	58	
TWA	28	
Twent Cent	12	
U.S. Steel	43	
West Union	17	
Woolworth	23	
Xerox	34	
Zenith	23	

Provided through the courtesy of the Foreign Securities Department of Bank Hapoalim, B.M., Tel Aviv. Tel. 251420.		
FOREIGN CURRENCY		
Official Exchange Rates		
U.S. \$	9.4145	9.4428
Sterling	16.1490	16.2337
DM	3.9934	4.0153
French Fr.	1.9008	1.9103
Dutch Fl.	3.3318	3.3509
Swiss Fr.	3.7418	3.7606
Austrian Sh.	5.8091	5.8372
Canadian \$	3.8903	3.9051
Australian \$	10.3880	10.4400
Rand	10.8180	10.8700

INTERBANK LONDON		
SPOT RATES:		
Dollar	1.7181/83	per \$
Swiss Fr.	2.3553/55	per \$
DM	3.3140/50	per \$
Belgian Fr.	36.00/01	per \$
Dutch Fl.	2.4590/95	per \$
Yen	277.15/30	per \$
French Fr.	4.9458/59	per \$
Danish Kr.	6.0235/50	per \$
Swedish Kr.	4.2555/55	per \$
Norwegian Kr.	5.2685/85	per \$
Gold price:	\$144.50-145.25	

FORWARD RATES:		
1 Mon. 3 Mos. 6 Mos.		
\$/L	1.7093/108	1.6972/97
DM	3.3257/67	3.3140/50
Sw. Fr.	3.7418/28	3.7301/11

NEW YORK (AP). — Stocks tumbled in the stock market yesterday after an early rally attempt failed to halt the slide of the past four sessions.		
Losers outnumbered gainers by more than a 2 to 1 margin among New York Stock Exchange-listed issues. The Dow Jones average has fallen 29.51 points in the past four trading days, closing on Tuesday at a 16-month low. At the opening yesterday there was some cautious buying interest, but no support for the upswing developed, and by mid-morning prices were back in a steady decline.		

HEVRA LEHILUL KRAHOT BNEIEMANUT B.M.		
ETAN	263.15	258.76
ALMOG	127.50	124.53
ADIF	127.14	122.38
TZABAR	154.28	150.48
ERIZ	258.15	244.41

Bank Hapoalim		
ETAN	263.15	258.76
ALMOG	127.50	124.53
ADIF	127.14	122.38
TZABAR	154.28	150.48
ERIZ	258.15	244.41

Results of raffle draw: May 19, 1977		
Prize	Ticket No.	Prize
1	2031	8
2	1824	9
3	1054	10
4	0824	11
5	1718	12
6	1639	13
7	1894	14
8	0708	15
9	1836	16
10	0285	17
11	0795	18
12	1867	19
13	1837	20
14	1945	21

Build Your House in Rosh Ha'ayin		
The Israel Lands Administration announces that within the framework of the above scheme, 16 plots for the erection of 59 build-yourself flat units still remain.		

Registration opened at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, May 25, at the Rosh Ha'ayin Local Council offices, and will end on Friday, June 24, 1977 at 12 noon.		
Further details and a prospectus are available from the offices of the Rosh Ha'ayin Local Council and at the Tel Aviv District Office of the Israel Lands Administration, 88 Derech Petah Tikva, Tel Aviv, during usual working hours.		

Israel Lands Administration		
Rosh Ha'ayin Local Council		

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Who will be host to the wig makers' convention?

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The next time the International Association of Wig Makers has a convention, they may have trouble deciding where to meet — and there will be plenty of countries happy to get their business.

Their decision on where to hold their gathering may be the result of an invitation — a Guatemalan wigmaker wants to be president, and his national chapter invites the international body. After months of planning, the group may find that Guatemala has no hall large enough to hold the 5,000 expected delegates.

This case is imaginary, but the fact remains that international congresses have become big business in the past 20 years. Dutchman John Moreu, director of the International Congress and Convention Association (ICCA), who is visiting the country briefly, explained that one reason countries try to attract conventions is that the average delegate tends to spend more than the usual tourist.

ICCA, which is headquartered in Amsterdam, is a professional body incorporating organizers, travel agents, airlines and others engaged in congresses. The members are accepted on the basis of their experience and qualifications.

Officially, at least, ICCA does not tell groups where to hold their meetings. But it can and does put the organizations in contact with the national organizers in countries which they are considering.

Moreu said the Association will guide its members concerning such objective factors as climate, public holidays and convention facilities.

As for food, local sites, and such matters as hotel service, the organizers will have to decide for themselves. Incidentally, he always recommends that the organizers visit the intended site before making a definite decision.

Accompanying Moreu was Gidon Gal-Or, head of the International Conventions Division of the Tourism Ministry, who reported that the Ministry is recommending the establishment of a national convention bureau, which would be known in Hebrew as Keren Kenes. He pointed out that Israel's biggest drawing cards are the level of medical and scientific research and the sentimental attractions drawing both Jews and Christians.

So far, he said, the Christian Group have been mostly Protestants, but Catholics are beginning to consider Israel. Incidentally, next year will also see a conference of the Bahai faith, with 500 delegates.

Gal-Or noted that Israel will permit the national of any state, even one with no diplomatic ties, to attend a convention in Israel. He also pointed out that the charters of many groups forbid the holding of a congress in any country which will not allow some members to attend.

The attitude of the ICCA is more circumspect. It will advise groups planning congresses of the restrictions set up by various countries, but will not try to influence them.

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Mr. Carter and 242

IN HIS ADDRESS at the University of Notre Dame earlier this week President Carter made a pointed reference to Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 as the necessary framework for any Middle East peace settlement. He recalled the fact that both Israel and the neighbouring Arab states had accepted the two resolutions, and he voiced the hope that they would stand by this acceptance.

That was fair enough, even though the President's sally seemed aimed not at all the parties directly concerned, but at the person who is expected to be Israel's next Prime Minister. Mr. Carter was in effect telling Mr. Begin that insistence on the retention of all of Judea and Samaria would contravene an explicit undertaking by his predecessors in office.

The two Security Council texts on Middle East peace are, in their way, models of elegant ambiguity. Thus Resolution 242 emphasizes the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war, and at the same time emphatically refrains from any suggestion that the "secure and recognized boundaries" to which the states in the area are entitled should follow the old armistice lines. Resolution 338 calls for an immediate start on the implementation of 242, and at the same time concedes that a just and durable peace can result only from negotiations between the parties.

Such ambiguities are bound to give rise to somewhat differing interpretations, which might form part of the process of give-and-take during peace talks. But there are some interpretations which no amount of verbal gymnastics can sustain. That goes for an Israel refusal to restore to Jordan rule any part of the West Bank. It also goes for the Arab claim that a just and durable peace means, at best, *de facto* non-belligerence.

Another wholly unwarranted interpretation of Resolution 242 is the injection of the notion of an independent Palestinian state — or, in the phraseology lately introduced by President Carter, a Palestinian "homeland."

Theoretically, of course, such a homeland could be secured within the territorial limits of the Kingdom of Jordan. But every fresh elaboration on the idea by the U.S. President makes it increasingly clear that what is meant is an independent political entity in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, perhaps loosely connected with Jordan. This has now been rendered close to official when the White House spokesman, following President Carter's meeting with Saudi Crown Prince Fahd, accorded this nebulous homeland the right to secure and recognized boundaries.

U.S. officials may argue that Israel's fears of such a Palestinian state, even if ruled by Yasser Arafat, are exaggerated. On this, they are unlikely to persuade any Israel Government. But what the Americans can in no way claim is that the idea of a Palestinian state can somehow be squared with the language, or even the spirit, of 242.

Resolution 242 aimed at the restoration of the pre-Six Day War state system in the area, but — and that was the huge innovation — in conditions of peace and security. It allowed for freely negotiated frontier modifications. It did not at all envision the interposition of any new state in the area.

It is a mistake to believe that the idea of a Palestinian state, or homeland, is an alternative to Arafat's notion of an all-Arab Palestine, sometimes disguised as "secular and democratic." In fact, it is an alternative to the basic conception of 242. It is firmly based on the succession of Arab-inspired decisions of the General Assembly on the "inalienable rights" of the Palestinians, all patently designed to undermine the international consensus embodied in the texts of the Security Council.

In short, the U.S. cannot eat its cake and have it, too. It cannot preach fidelity to Resolution 242, and at the same time twist and bend it beyond recognition. The current American rhetoric about a Palestinian homeland is not a construction of 242; it is a contribution to its destruction.

This conviction transcends party divisions in Israel. Mr. Samuel Lewis, who yesterday submitted his credentials in Jerusalem as the new U.S. Ambassador, would be rendering signal service both to this country and to his own by making this crystal clear to Washington.

Mr. Rabin's return

TO THE SURPRISE of some politicians, and even constitutional lawyers, Yitzhak Rabin this week resumed his role as Prime Minister in full.

There should have been no surprise. It may be recalled — could it really have been so easily forgotten? — that Mr. Rabin decided to take leave a month ago, when it became clear to him that he could not resign the caretaker premiership, and that the legal responsibilities of the office would remain his no matter what he did.

In the very act of announcing his leave, he pledged to return right after the elections. At the time, his intention occasioned no audible protest.

Indeed, a leading constitutional authority, Prof. Claude Klein of the Hebrew University Law School, suggested in an article in *The Jerusalem Post* that Mr. Rabin would be violating the spirit of the Basic Law if he were to extend his vacation beyond the elections. Attorney-General Aharon Barak clarified the situation further by insisting that Defence Minister Shimon Peres, who was replacing Mr. Rabin at cabinet meetings, could not properly be termed Acting Prime Minister.

Now that he is back, all that remains for Mr. Rabin to do is to wind up the affairs of his lame-duck administration, and to arrange for an orderly transfer of authority to his successor. This might have given rise to some serious political difficulty if the successor were Mr. Peres, who took over from Mr. Rabin at the last moment as Number One on the Alignment's list.

As it happens, there is no such difficulty. Instead, there are rumours afoot that Mr. Rabin, although down to Number 20 on the list now, is aching to use his draining powers of premiership to establish himself in advance as leader of the Labour opposition in the Knesset. For his and his party's sake, it is to be hoped these rumours are not true.

For an attempt at such a comeback on Mr. Rabin's part would inevitably plunge the badly defeated Labour Party into ruinous internal strife. The party's chances of an early recovery would then surely be finished, and so might be Mr. Rabin's own political career.

DEBATE over what caused the downfall of the Labour Alignment is certain to continue for some time. Rightly so, for it is not just academic exercise, and it concerns not only the Labour party.

Everybody agrees there was a combination of causes. But with such a long list to choose from — financial scandals, the Comptroller's report on the Army, unpopular appointments, Labour infighting and disunity, strikes in essential services, Carter's statements, and so on — evaluations cannot but vary.

Each and every one of these causes no doubt contributed to the ousting of the Labour government. The relative impact can only be a matter for speculation. It's even unlikely that a post-election public opinion poll could give us an exact answer, for that assumes that all the voters knew why they voted as they did.

There have been financial scandals and irregularities before, but in more recent times they were not whitewashed "for the good of the cause." Infighting also is not entirely new to the Labour party. Even if there has been a deterioration in the last few years, these and other "topical" causes attributed to Labour's downfall, do not provide a full answer.

Valid as they are, they should be placed in the context of objective factors in the country's situation. The most important of these would be the protracted period of uncertainty since 1967 — and inflation.

These two factors in tandem provided an explosive background against which all the other shortcomings of the government became highly combustible. Under the cir-

Lessons of the downfall

The downfall of the Alignment was due not only to Labour's own shortcomings but also to some objective causes. All the same, argues SHALOM COHEN, a decent period in opposition ought to be of benefit to the Alignment.

circumstances only a truly superior government could have hoped to retain the confidence of the nation at large. The results proved that Labour failed to measure up.

THIS NEED NOT be interpreted as a swing to the right by the Israel public, not in the conventional sense of right and left that exists elsewhere. Which is one reason why it is important to try to assess correctly the causes of the Labour debacle. Such an exercise should also be attempted by a Likud-led Government when it formulates its domestic and external policies — if only because the most dramatic gains were in truth made by the Democratic Movement for Change, and not by the Likud.

Most people were surprised by the scale of Labour's defeat. In retrospect it is now perhaps equally surprising that it did not occur during the elections immediately following the Yom Kippur War when the Alignment dropped from 56 seats to 51.

On inflation as an objective cause of Labour's debacle little need be added. The effects of this disease

that rots the soul of nations are tangible — labour unrest, strikes, speculation and instability.

The toll taken by 10 years of uncertainty is far more imponderable. What are the country's borders?

These questions went unanswered for 10 years, in an uneasy *status quo* shattered by the Yom Kippur War. The uncertainty, even if it was forced on Israel, had its effect on the public mood. Yet the full impact was felt during the past three years, on top of the scandals and other destructive manifestations that registered in the public mind.

Faced with these tremendous challenges, Labour not only failed to rise to the occasion but made matters worse by engaging in internal feuding and naked power struggles. Whether or not Yitzhak Rabin had the qualities required from a leader in such a difficult situation is no longer the question. The party as such didn't fill the bill.

IT MAY BE DOUBTED whether future historians will remember the

name Asher Yadlin. It is more likely that they will record the present change of guard in the context of the ongoing post-1967 situation, and not as an "ideological" transformation.

Labour, in its new role in opposition, compelled as it will be to revive and reform itself, might suddenly become aware that an increasing proportion of our changing population is apolitical when it comes to formalized ideology. To what extent the broad masses have any allegiance to the Labour Movement or to Labour-Zionism, with the Labour Party out of power, remains to be seen.

At the same time, the Labour Movement, and those who believe that "more socialism means more Zionism," and who consider grandiose a poor recipe for a long haul, should not write off the elections as a national swing to the right.

The Labour Movement will now have time to attend to things like its local youth movements, which it has neglected. The coming Knesset elections could serve as an immediate rallying point for closing ranks in the Movement — unless the loss of the cement of power leads

to further divisiveness. Ideologically, the Labour Movement out of power faces problems that are similar to those faced — and not solved — by social democratic parties abroad. But the Israel Labour Movement enjoys an advantage because of the synthesis of socialism and Zionism, which makes it both a national and a social movement and thus gives it its strength. Whether it can catch up with its past is the crucial question for its future. All this applies equally to the progressive religious elements in the Movement, many of whom apparently abandoned Labour this time.

HAVING ASCRIBED Labour's fall to a combination of its own shortcomings and objective conditions, we should point out that a change of government ought to be beneficial to the party, at least in the short run. New faces and voices in the old roles could provide the second wind needed for the long uphill march. But for the longer run, once the novelty is over, it will be the new government's policies, and its ability to deal with the objective realities, that will count.

On the external front, this means working for the best possible deal available to us, as sin pursued by successive Labour governments in an undiscriminate fashion. On the internal front it means providing that it is not shackled to vested interests and that it is working for the general good. Innovations need not destroy the social spirit and achievements that have been for so long an integral part of practical Zionist action.

A Likud-led government will need to rise above itself, just as its predecessor needed to.

Saying the Word

SETTING ASIDE for a moment our fears and qualms about a Begin premiership, its effect on the Middle-East conflict and on the American Connection, we can afford just briefly to dwell on one refreshing effect the Likud leader may have on Israel itself. For the first time, the Jewish State is to have a head of government who cites the name of God — in his official statements, his political speeches, and his private conversations.

As a most prosaic example we can recall last week's television confrontation between Begin and Peres. "Not a single memorable statement from either of them," was the verdict that same night of a sophisticated intellectual holding a government position. But there was one. "With God's help," Begin had said, "we shall succeed."

An ordinary enough remark. The kind of remark that so many Israelis use in their daily lives, without thinking. Certainly the use of it does not necessarily imply conventional Orthodoxy — nor, indeed, any real conviction that God's help is either attainable or required. It's just the way Jews talk.

But for Shimon Peres, Yitzhak Rabin and Golda Meir it is the idiom of the ghetto, the Galut. Still clinging, anachronistically, to the discredited dogmatic trappings of Zionist-Socialism (while having long ago compromised over that Movement's much more fundamental — and more relevant — doctrines), the leaders of Labour today still assiduously obliterate God from their thoughts, words and actions.

The only exceptions, sadly, are funeral services, for which the awkwardly-fitting black skullcaps are taken out of the glove compartments of the official cars. Begin's black kippa, donned unselfconsciously in front of the television cameras at three a.m. last Tuesday when he recited Psalms at his victory address, seemed to sit more comfortably on his head, although he, too, is not strictly a Jew. In the conventional sense. Those who felt — and there were some who reacted in this way — that the whole act was a charade cynically designed to woo the religious parties into a coalition, simply don't know Begin. For Begin it was the natural thing to do, the action which his perception of Jewish *machshava* called for at that historic moment.

ON JUNE 3, 1974, the day Yitzhak Rabin presented his government to the Knesset and took the premier's

oath of loyal service, someone suggested to him that he might go first to the Western Wall (with the television cameras, no doubt, trailing faithfully behind).

"I can't do it," Rabin replied, with admirable candour. "I don't believe in it... It's too far from me... It wouldn't be genuine." Candid — but misguided. A lacuna in his perception of national leadership.

Rabin's personal beliefs are only relevant now, now that he is no longer Prime Minister. Now he can shun the Wall if it does not particularly draw him. But in a national leadership role the indulgence of personal predilections which run counter to the underlying national sentiment is a failure in leadership.

For the "Rock of Israel" syndrome was old hat well before his last election. It was probably an elitist anachronism even at that time, May 1948, when it was conceived as a "saving formula" to overcome the drafting obstacles in the Declaration of Independence. The left-wing parties balked at any explicit reference to the Almighty, but were prepared to accept the innocuous because ambivalent surrogate "Rock of Israel" which could, with imagination, be invested with non-Divine attributes.

When Westerners — even Western liberals and socialist — hear that story today they can only laugh. It seems to them, rightly, the epitome of pristine political naivete, an approach bereft of national pride and dignity.

In the Land of the Free, where the total disestablishment of religion is zealously protected by the Constitution, the legend "In God We Trust" is boldly emblazoned in the national crest, over the Speaker's chair in the U.S. Congress. Whether the representatives of the people who conduct the politics of the nation beneath that emblem, or, in London's Westminster, participate in daily prayers before belabouring the government ministers at Question Time, necessarily believe in the literal legend or in the legend, is quite immaterial. The legend, the prayers, are in a certain, universally accepted way uplifting. They lend grandeur to the proceedings, give dignity to the hurly-burly of national politics.

Israel, a much younger society, is still labouring under the inhibitions of religious politics. God has not yet risen, so to speak, above our party politics. The Left still regard Him with lingering suspicion, the Right zealously espouse His ordained

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